The Garland of

Flowers,

(Commonly called Twyses P[illegible]

carefully collected, and beau[tifully]

fully adorned with the most fra-

grant blossoms that flourish

in the comfortable Gar-

den of the righ[teous]

pure and sacred

Scripture,

forth a verie comfortable [re]

fected soule, whereby he is safely

supported to the mercie full

throne of God, there to

gaine forgiuenes of

his offences.

Newly corrected and augmented.

Iob, 31. 26.

I will take it on my shoulder, and bind

Garland vnto it, as vnto

my head.

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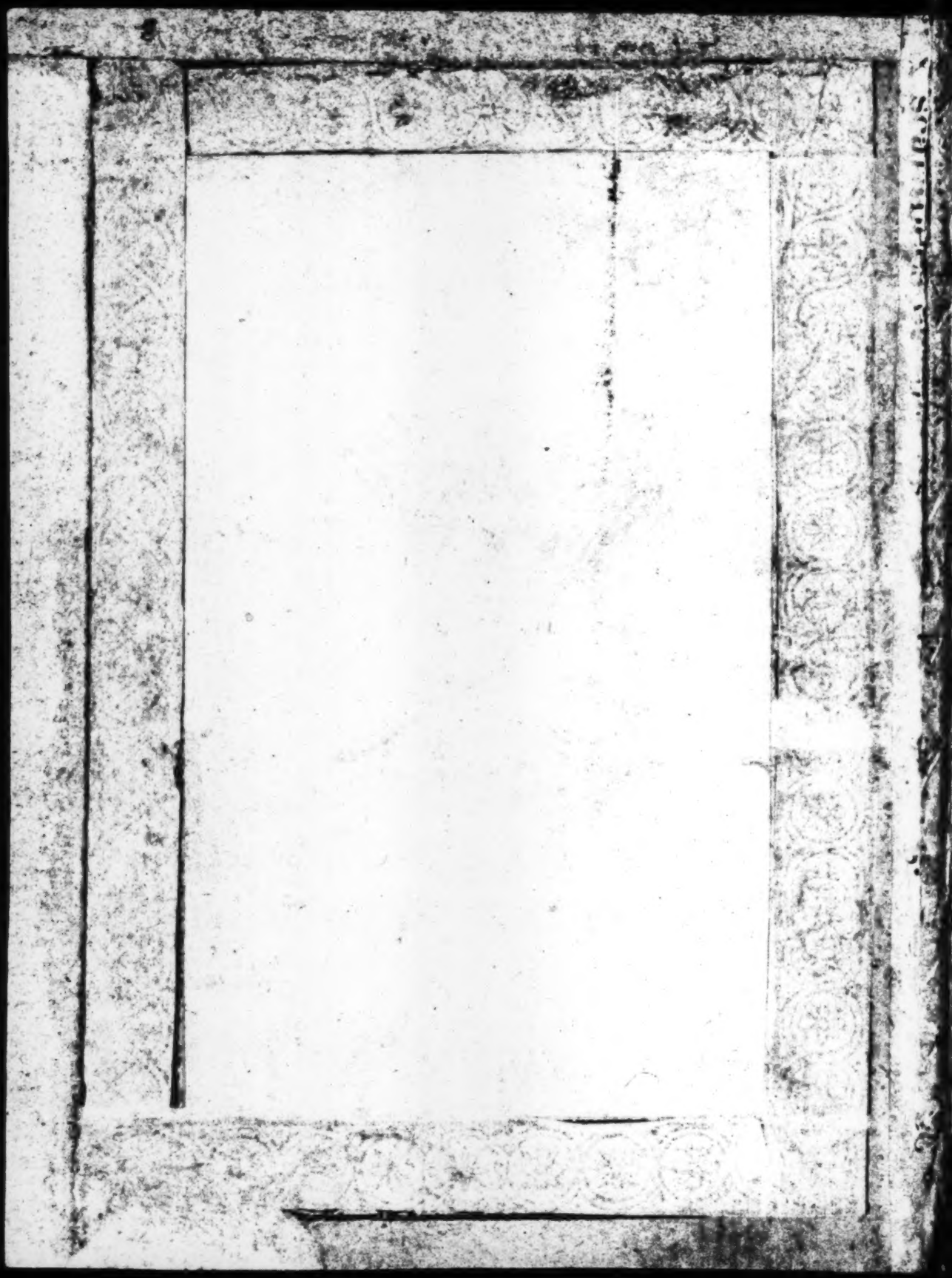
of the Stars. 1602.



To the right Honorable ſir Nicholas Bacon Knight, one of the Queenes Maieſties moſte Honourable priuie Counſell, and Lord keeper of the great ſeale of England. And to the Right Honourable and moſt vertuous Ladie, Anne his moſt worthie good Lord and Maſter, Ladie and Maiſtreſſe.

WAlking in this vale of myſerie, checked with the choaking cares of this mortall life, mated with the manifolde calaimties whereunto the whole-poſte

ritie of our firſt Father Adam is ſubiecte: I finde nothing (right honourable, my good Lorde, and Ladie) wherein the heart of man can take more quiet, & caſt foorth a ſurer anchor of ſtabilitie to ride ſafe from the vncertaine ſurges of this wicked worlde, or enter into a calmer hauen: than into the vndoubted harbour, and comfortable porte of prayer. Herein, although wee bee neuer ſo much toſſed with troubles, wearied with vexations, affrighted with afflictions pinched with paines, oppreſſed with miſeries, girded with griefes, and ſlaine with perſecutions: yet wee maie finde aſſured

reliefe

releefe, certaine ſuccour, conſtant comforte, ſpeedie helpe, and vndoubted deliueranee. And no maruell, For although it ſometime ſo vnhappilie fall out, that euen the moſt expert and wiſeſt mariners, when they haue attained the roade after boiſterous ſtormes on the open ſea, thinking themſelues then paſt all daunger, are notwithſtanding caſt away in the hauen: yet in the middeſt of our miſeries, and verie depth of our dangers, if we turne about the helme of our contemplations, & arriue once within this roade: we neede to feare no foule weather we weigh no ſhipwracke we, dread

not drowning. The flitting of our barke, may aptly repreſent our diſtracted conſcience, the cable thereof our faith, the anchor fruit of good workes faſt linked to the ſame, the anchorage is Chriſt our Sauiour: on whome if our cable doe ſtrike, and our anchor take holde, the grounde neuer faileth vs, for it is a firme rocke, the holde yeeldeth not at the rage of the wind not weather, for it is not ſerled vpon the ſande. In ſuch like ſort, it pleaſed ſometime our Sweete Sauiour, the diuine wiſedome of God the Father, by groſſe and baſe tearme to figure himſelfe, the better to bee

con

conceiued by our blinded vnderſtanding : that knowing the nature & diſpoſition of the thing, we might likewiſe in all our troubles and afflictions, ſtaie, and repoſe our ſelues on him , being thereto more willing continuallie than wee readie , and rather inuiting vs, than wee ſeeking for him. Vnto whom the neereſt and onelie waie of attaining ſince we are taught by ſacred letters , and by the verie mouthe of the liuinge God. that it muſt bee through the benefite of a moſte conſtant and liuely faith , ſpringing from the infallible trueth of God in his promiſes made vnto mankinde, ſince

the reuolate of Adam, through his Patriarches, Prophets, and prechers, and fithence that alſo through his vndoubted Sonne Chriſt our Sauiour, God and man: wee may not preſume to the preſence of the Almightie, there to ſue for grace, or releaſe of the loathſome burthen of our tranſgreſſions; or take holde on his comfortable couenantes drawne betweene his Maieſtie and vs, vntill we haue completlie, and at all pointes armed our ſelues with an ardent deſire to craue, and an aſſured hope to receiue. Not for our owne ſakes or demerites, nor at out alonelie ſute, but for the deſerts,

ſertes, and at the intreatie of his dearlie beloued Sonne our Sauiour: at whoſe requeſt Bicauſe hee is righteous, hee granteth pardon vnto vs moſt wretched offenders. Wherefore, when wee enter this ſecret communication touching our priuate eſtate, we muſt heedefullie beware, and carefullie prouide, that we drawe nigh the moſt dreade Maieſtie of God with feruencie of faith, in ſingleneſſe of life, and puritie of conſcience, letting all worldlie affections aſide, condemning our former miſdeedes, ſubmitting our will vnto his good pleaſure, and requiring ſuch things as are good and godlie

neceſſarie

neceſſarie not onlie for our owne peculiar degree, but for all the world, preiudiciall to none, full of hope, full of charitie: and ſo ſhall wee bee aſſured to finde the moſt Mightie our friende, and our praier to be effectuall. Then ſhall we feele immediately a woonder full operation of the holie Ghoſt within our heartes, aſſuring vs of the great, and tender mercie of God towardes vs, wherein we are afſoones emboldened to crie vnto him, Abba father, thy will bee doone in earth as it is in heauen. This is the meanes whereby the auncient heroicall perſonages of the olde teſtament became, as it were

were, familiar with God. For by this hee was felt in a combate of wreſtling all night, ſeene in the burning buſh, heard in a calme after a windie tempeſt, and dailie communed withall in the mount. By faithfull praier God preſerueth the righteous in the true waie, bringeth backe ſuch as goe aſtray, ſtaieth vp thoſe that ſtand, helpeth vp ſuch as fall, comforteth the weake conſcience, lighteneth the ſorrowfull hart cheereth the heauie minde, refreſheth the laden ſpirit, erecteth the afflicted ſoule from the deepe dungeon of blacke deſperation, and crowneth him with immortalitie. I

neede not in this place to call now to recorde the priuie experiments, and triall herein of manie other men, ſince that I my poore ſelfe, for the ſhort time that God hath ledde forth my daies in this life, haue moſt ſharpelie tafted the ſower of the one, and moſt comfortable tried the ſweete of the other. Not that I haue beene a great eie ſore vnto Fortune, as wee dailie ſee there bee diuers, as by her greeuouſlie enuied at, aſſaulted, beaten, caſt downe, troden vnder foote, ſpurned about, driuen to duſt, conſumed to nothing, for I neuer poſſeſſed the occaſion of anie ſuch ſtorming caſu-

caſualties. Yet in my ſlender boat hath ſhee ſhipped her bitter oare, ſhee hath blowne a contrarie gale in my hoiſed ſale, ſhe hath ſouſed my ſugar with ſalte, and ſeaſoned my ſweete ſyrrop with vnpleaſant Aloes: ſhe hath frowned vpon my felicitie, and don hir beſt to bring me to naught, and now ſhe triumpheth for the victorie, whereto I muſt of force haue yeelded, had I not ſuſtained my ſelfe onelie with this moſt worthie benefite, where by I haue bin ſufficientlie inſtructed, howe to eſteeme the frownings, or fawninges of this wicked worlde, As for the vſe of praier, it is expedient in our youth, and neceſ

neceſſarie in our olde age, and meete at all times, and for all eſtates. By this the poore wretches doo tolerate their neede, and the riche obtaine power to enioy their wealth. Both the prince and the ſubiect, whatſoeuer bee the puiſsance of the one, or the condition of the other, haue continuall neede of recourſe vnto praier: whereby they become humble ſuters to the omnipotent GOD in reſpecte of their imperfections and vnrighteouſneſſe, wherein hee hath included the ſonnes of men, as witneſſeth S Iohn, ſayng: *If wee ſaie that wee haue no ſinne, wee deceiue our ſelues, and*

and there is no truth in vs. And Iob likewiſe ſpeaketh of all men in his owne perſon: *If I will iuſtifie my ſelfe, mine owne mouthe ſhall condemne mee. If I will be a perfect man, God ſhall prooue mee a wicked doer*: and alſo in another place, he fitlie laieth foorth the miſeries of our nature, where he ſaith: *Man that is borne of a woman hath but a ſhort date of life, and is repleniſhed with manie miſeries*. The ſecret aſſaults whereof, when they ſhall, as daily they doe, with remorſe of conſcience, withdrawe your honourable perſonages a while from the accuſtomable conuerſion in ordinarie affaires, priuatelie to profeſſe

feſse your guilt, and hartelie to humble your ſelues before the maieſtie of God, with feruent affection in lowlie praier: if you ſhal take into your handes this little booke, which I haue tearmed a *Garland*, eftſoones ſelecting ſome one or two *Flowers* therein conteined, as occaſion ſhall ſerue from your profounder meditations, I doe not diſtruſt, but that happilie your Honours may conceiue ſome ſuch ſootneſse of ſauour therein, as ſhall not offende your ſenſe, much leſse the Maieſtie of God, As to the good liking of the one, and the glorie of the other, I haue bin ſo bolde to em-

ploy

ploy the ſmall trauell of gathering theſe fewe Flowers into order of your Honourable names . and to offer them vnto you : knitting them vp in one Garland , which conteineth as manie pleaſaunt Flowers as there are Letters in your magnificall names , and expreſſing thereby , as was mine endeuour , the abſolute circle of commendable graces and vertues , apparant to the worlde, iointlie couched in your righte Honourable perſons . A moſte certaine preſident whereof may bee; in that the one of you is by our moſte prudent Prince, doubtleſse at the ſecret motion

of GOD, raiſed vnto ſuch high-neſſe in Honour, as being made match with the beſt, inferiour to none, I neede ſeeke for no further occaſions of commendation, or auntient titles of worſhip or Honour: the graue ſpeeche giuing euident token of the profounde wiſedome: and the graie head, of the ripe diſcretion: and the ſiluered hayres, of the golden witte: and the Honourable olde age, of the vertuous forepaſsed life: and the ſtoare of yeeres, of the great and woonderfull bleſsing of the moſt highe and mightie GOD. On the other ſide beautified with a comelie

lie and louing Ladie: bleſſed with a ſober and modeſte matrone: the ofſpring of an excellent progenie: neece to right worſhipfull aunceſtors: daughter to a worthie knight: ſcholler to a famous Schoolemaiſter: learned rarelie for hir ſexe: ſiſter to a right Honourable Ladie, mother of much hoped impes: Aunte to a peereleſse counteſſe, wife to a Noble Counſeller, Ladie of a godlie famelie, ſubiect to a gratious Prince: an aſſured rampire to the vertuous and learned: an earneſt profeſſour of the auncient and vndoubted Religion, a true worſhipper of the Almigh-

tie GOD, in all ſingleneſse of life, and obedience towarde his Maieſty. Vnto whoſe good pleaſure, for the prolonging and continuance of both your deſired liues, to bee lead foorth with increaſe of godlie honour, and all other vertues and Chriſtian delightes appertaining to the ſame, by meanes whereof the race of this tranſitorie pilgrimage may bee made leſse irkeſome to the bodie, or preiudiciall to the ſoule: as by duetie I am bounde. ſo doe I not ſurceaſe daielie to begge in my praiers, the effecte whereof moſte humblie I beſeech him to graunt,

who

who tendreth our iuſt requeſtes, and is the onlie giuer of all goodneſse. At London, this firſt day of Ianuarie.

1574

Your Honors euer at

commandement,

Thomas Twine.

XVII. wholesome lessons, *contrined vpon three honourable names.*

NICHOLAS.

N o worldly pelfe see thee from God do cal.
I ncline thine hear1 to do the thing is iust·
C onfirm e thy faith that thou do neuer fal.
H olde fast on God, in him repose the trust.
O bserue thy waies, amend what is amisse.
L ay vp thy wealth where rust may do no harme.
A mende thy crimes while vacant time there is
S ubmit thy cause vnto Gods mighty arme.

ANNE.

A enge thee not when thou canst wel repay
N euer let vices harbour in thine hart.
N ecdes vrgent law con sider thou alway.
E ek to the poore do of thy goods impart.

BACON.

B eware of pride by glory set no price.
A way from gilt esse blood turne backe thy face.
C onsider sutes, weigh causes once or twice.
O pen thy mouth in widowes wofull case.
N othing from praier let thee once disseuer.
Liue this lore, and thou shalt liue for euer.

The Authour, to the *godlie and louing* Reader, greeting.

THE excellencie of prayer, godlie and louing Reader, may easilie be perceiued by the daillie necessitie thereof, forasmuch as wee are inuited by the verie Trueth himselfe euerie daie to pray for our daily bred & other necessaries, which vnlesse we praie for we are not like to receiue, and if wee re-

crtue them not, wee are not able to liue, These and such like considerations, haue moued many godly disposed persons to set forth fourmes and manners of prayer partlie to instructe the vnskilfull desirous and partelie to benefite others by that which themselues haue found comfortable: whose workes I woulde were as well frequented, as they bee manie and diuers. I dispraise none, since they are all written for

a good intent. But as I am ſure there bee ſome penned with a better feeling then other, ſo woulde I bee glad that this my poore trauell might ſeeme worthie to bee vſed of ſome, I truſt to their comfort. Of this I aſſure thee, what euer it bee, the petitions there in are ſuch as my ſelfe haue long accuſtomed, and which in the time of affliction haue brought no ſmall releeſe vnto my carefull and diſtreſſed conſcience

science. And for that I am a man vnder imperfections, and knowe that there are no infirmities whereunte I am subiect but they may touch others also, I haue not withholden that from anie wherein my selfe haue found commoditie. Euerie Flower in this Garland hath his seuenteene sentences or breakinges off, which may serue for breathinges and pauses in a long discourse, whereof euerie one is either an

an humble request, or a beating downe of presumption, or a refreshing of the afflicted mind in anguish, or an inward stirring vp of the soule from slumber, or an erecting of the pensiue heart in comfort: and at the end of the periodus, or whole verse, there maie bee vsed some godlie contemplation concerning the petition laste beefore made, or whatsoeuer else more necessarie for thy present estate shall come in

to

to thy minde. For my meaning is not to binde thee to the precise order of my words onelie, but by setting downe varietie of matter to bring thee in minde of that which shall concerne thee most, wherevppon thou maiest dwell and occupie thy selfe in more ample and earnest meditation at thy pleasure. This is my deuise wherefore I thought good to make thee priuie, trusting that by the discrete exercise

exercise, and godly vse of the one and the other, thou shalt perceiue no slender effect to followe thy faithfull petitions, which I hartelie beseech GOD to graunt, for his Sonnes sake our Sauiour Iesus Christ. Vnto whose moste gratious tuition at what time thou shalte recommende thy selfe in praier, and also the good estate of them to whome thou wishest best, then in the number of them, thinke, I praie

praie thee, vpon me also, than whome there is none hath greater neede, or that is a more wretched sinner.

So liue, and farewell hartily.

Thine in the Lorde,
Thomas Twyne.

THE GARLAND
of Godlie Flowers.

N

¶ Not with ſeruice vnto the eie, as men pleaſers : but as the ſeruants of Chriſt, doe ye the will of God from the heart, with good will ſeruing the Lord, and not men. *Ephe. 6. verſe.*

¶ The firſt Flower

NOthing there is that caſteth mankinde more deepe into thy diſpleaſure, O celeſtiall father, than

than ſinne: nothing that aduanceth him ſo high in thy fauour, as faithfull repentance: the beautie of the one is ſo pleaſaunt in the ſight of thy Maieſty, that it blotteth out quite the blemiſhes of the other.

2 And ſince I am a miſerable mortall creature, I muſt needes confeſſe, that I haue all maner of waies tranſgreſſed thy moſt diuine commandements in the due obſeruation whereof, there conſiſteth life and welfare vnto my ſoule, and by the breach and violation thereof, nothing elſe but the ſeuere ſentence of ſtraight damnation.

3 Therefore I cannot tel, moſt

miſerable wretch as I am, howe I ſhoulde preſume to approch to thée for mercie, I dare not ſhewe my ſelfe before thee, but if it were poſſible, I would gladly hide my ſelfe from thy ſight, where thou mightest not finde mee, that by ſuch meanes I might eſcape thy dreadfull iudgment.

4 Howbeit, O Lorde, thou art the mightie God, to whome all thinges in heauen and earth are knowne ſince they were framed onelie by thy cunning fingers, whoſe greatneſſe comprehendeth whatſoeuer thou haſt created, & whoſe eies beholde what is done in the top of the higheſt, and in the bottome of the deepeſt places

in the worlo.

5 In thy sight Lord, the most secrete thoughts of the heart are open, and whatsoeuer mans imagination can cõceiue it lieth forth plaine before thy most glorious face: from thee there are no cogitations concealed, no pretenses suppressed, no practises withholden, no deuises couered, nor the smallest motions of the minde, hidden.

6 Unto thee therefore, with trembling and teares I returne, appealing from the high, dread, & terrible throne of thy iust iudgement, removing my cause to the most amiable, plesant, and comfortable court of thy manifolde

mercies

mercies: from the seuerety of the one wherof, O righteous Iudge I flie with feare, and to the mildnesse of the other, O mercifull father I draw neare with clapsed armes.

7 Euen there, Lord, thou hast laid vp such abundance of graces and plentie of pardons, and store of forgiuenes of sinnes, that they doe surmount the number of the offences, bee they neuer so greeuous, that I poore wretch or all mankind is able to commit to the worlds end: and ouerspread the greatnesse of al thy most wonderfull works.

8 Here then it is, O my God, that I dare to appeare before thy

diuine maiestie, a filthie sinner before a merciful God, a verie lumpe of wickednesse before the eternal creator of al things, of inestimable wisedome, that takest mercie vpon our weaknesse and infirmitie, because thou wotest well the stuffe & substance whereof thou hast made vs.

9 Behold, Lorde, I call vnto me, thy dearely beloued Sonne, my most louing redeemer Iesus Christ to be mine aduocate, according vnto his own free will and voluntary offring: through whom by his most precious bloud shed vnto thee, vpon the acceptable altar of the Crosse, in lieu of the double death that we shoulde all haue

haue died for our most horrible offenses, I looke for the forgiuenes of my sinnes.

10 Pardon I beseech thee, O God, O pardon my grieuous iniquities forgiue me al my wickednesse, release my negligences, remit mine ignorances, forget my transgressions, abandon the lothsomnes of my sinnes, which from my mothers wombe vnto this present day I haue committed, or shall doe hereafter vnto my liues end

10 Then being thus clensed & purified through thy gratious bountie, from all contagion of sinfull impuritie, grant that I may obtaine a liuely spirit and feruent

faith and ardent affection at thy hands, inceſſantly to caſt vp my minde vnto thee in moſte earneſt contemplation, & ſtedfaſtly to call vpon thee in moſt hearty praier, to the glory of thy holy name, and mine owne exceeding comfort.

12 Lord, in all my neceſſities aduerſities, troubles, greefes, miſeries, and afflictions, confirme my heart, that I may put my whole truſt and affiance in thy Maieſtie, and ſeeke none other meanes, nor take none other comfort, then in reading thy worthie worde, or in recourſe to thee in moſt faithfull and effectuall ſupplications.

13 So prone is the nature of mankind

mankinde vnto euill, that almost there is none to be found, Lorde, that liueth in thy lawes, or sheweth in his conuersation that hee standeth in dreade of thy power, who is afraide to offende thee, or who refraineth to blaspheme thy holy name. or seeketh to make subiect the flesh to the spirit, or to bridle the vnreasonable lusts of this carnall sensuality, making them captiuate vnto the mind.

14 If at any time Lord, as is the frailtie of our corruptible nature, & the incessant suggestions of Sathan our auncient enemie, I feele in my selfe any faintnesse or failing of fervencie, in calling continualy vpon thee: kindle thou then

then within my heart the heauenly heat of thy holy spirit, that I maye burne in the zeale of thee, and thy moste holy house.

15 Grant mee thy grace, to crie with thy holy and blessed Apostle for increase of faith, that being awakned and stirred vp by thy moste tender and fatherly instigation; I may enioy the effect of my godly and necessary desires which thou hast promised to yéeld vnto me through thy déere sonne Iesus Christ my onely sauiour, for whose sake I expect all good things at thy hands.

16 Be not wearie, O Lord, to lende thine eare vnto my sinfull praier, and make me that I be neuer

neuer wearie to powre out my complaints euermore before thee. The more I pray, the more kindle thou my desire, and the greater the blessings are which I receiue at thy hands, the more stir thou vp my minde to admiration, and my heart to thankefulnesse & all the powers of my soule to render praise to thy maiesty.

17 Perfourme my God, that which thou hast intended with thy seelie seruant, who with anguish of minde, and heauinesse of heart euermore seeketh after the comfort of thy face: continue in me the custome to call vpon thee in praier, and all the powers of my bodie shall not cease to sing thy

thy ſacred praiſe, Amen.

I

¶ If ye being euill, knowne to giue your children good gifts, how much more will your Father which is in heauen, giue good things to them that aske them? *Luke. 11. verſe: 13.*

¶ The ſecond Flower.

IN moſte heartie wiſe of thy manifolde mercies, and with lowlye reuerence, O euerlaſting God, loe thus I draw nigh vnto thee

thæ being loze laden with the in=finite nuimber of my ſinnes: tru=ſting in thy fatherly gwdnes, and entier loue, which thou beareſt vnto mankinde: thou wilt diſ=charge me of mine vnrighteouſ=nes, and waſh a way all mine in=firmities.

2 Thy louing kindneſſe hath bene ineſtimable, which thou haſt bozne vnto me ſince my ſimple cō ception in the tender intrailes of my mother, within whoſe bodie thou didſt lay fozth the platfozme of my body, frameddſt ſo my fleſh, & gaueſt vnto me the repzeſentatiō of a man, thy beſt beloued and comlieſt creature.

3 After this in due maturitie

of

of time according to the estabit-
shed & ordinary season assigned by
thy heauenlie wisedome, much
trauell and sharpe paines going
before, according as it is expres-
sed in thy holie worde, thou
broughtest mee forth into this
world my first time giuing proofe
of the vnhappie condition that I
should inioy therein.

4 Lorde thou knowest howe
that so soone as I was deliuered
from my mothers wombe: euen
then from rest and quietnesse I
entred first into this most wofull
vale of misery, and so soone as I
was discharged from that close
prison, I began my life in feeble-
nes and sorrow, & the first breath
that

that I set, I bestowed it forth in bitter cryings, and most pitifull plaints.

5 These miserable infirmities, O Lord, haue I considered within my selfe, and how I am wrapped round about with cares as it were in a blanket, whereof I cannot acquite my selfe, no not of the least: but in consideration thereof of verie necessitie I am enforced to flie to thy marueilous mercie, for speedy helpe and deliuerance.

6 Helpe me therefore, my God & hold me vp with thy most holie hand, for thou art mine onely succour, thou art the shielde of my safety, and the fort of my defence, and

and the castle of my comfort, and the rampier of my refuge, and the wal of my welfare, and the strong hold of my euerlasting hapines thou art the crowne of my victory and thou liftest vp my head.

7 For there is no saluation in the power of man, riches are of smale force, the strength of our body is not so much as thou hast giuen to an horse or an oxe, there is no title of nobilitie or honour that thou doest regard: and as for the health of our bodie, it is quite ouerthrown with the least infirmitie that thou sendest, besides that our life is subiect to innumerable casualties.

8 Arise therefore now, O my soule

soule, out of the bed of securitie, & slumber no longer in the sleepe of sinne: put on thine armour of faith against thy aduersarie the Diuell, or rather cloath thy selfe with the garment of righteousnesse which thou hast obtayned through Christ Iesus thy saviour, Humble thy selfe before him in harty prayer, turne from euill, and doe that which is good, seeke after peace and follow it.

9 Say vnto him: Leade mee Lord in thy way that may be best liking vnto thee. Keepe my tong from greeuous offense, my heart from cruell hats, my minde from fond loue and worldly concupiscence, and generally preserue mee

from all vicious and vngodlie affections that follow the frailtie of the rebellious flesh, and cary men headlong away from God.

10 Preserue me, O most louing Lord, from henceforth, I humblie beseech thee, vnto my liues end, euen as thou hast done hitherto from my tẽder age, Giue mee not ouer at anie time vnto mine owne sinfull waies and obstinate wilfulnesse, and let me not find thy most louing kindnesse in any point withdrawne from mee now in these my present yeares.

11 Giue vnto me thy humble seruant, that I may yéelde thée most hartie thankes, for all thy benefits plentifully powred vpon me:

me: and that hart which thou hast giuen vnto me, fulfill it, O God, with duetifull remembrance towards thee, and take the spirit of ingratitude from my mind, and vnthankfulnesse from my mouth.

12 Make all the cogitations of my mind, and the actions of my bodie acceptable vnto thee, and that which may offende thy diuine Maiestie, or is repugnant vnto thy sacred cõmaundementes, letie it not once enter into my thought keepe mine eies from seeing it mine eares from hearing it and my sense of feeling from conceiuing delight in it.

13 But cause me to take a singular delectation in the practise

of al things that may be pleasant vnto thée, put awaye from me all erring from thy wayes, al falling from thy feare, all hating of thy honour, all wearinesse of thy wil, all loathsomnesse of thy loue, and make me to take that which thou louest, & to hate that which thou abhorrest.

14 Take me from all pride and selfe liking that I may conceiue no good opinion of my selfe for that which is none of mine own, let mee not thinke I am rich in thee, when indeede I am poore, that I see when I am blind, that I am hid when I am naked, that I am iust when I am vnrighteous, that I am something when

I

I am nothing.

15 As for the infinitie of my offences, which in number surpasse the sandes of the sea: giue vnto mee a cleare sparkle of thy heauenly light, O my God, that I may beholde them, a penitent heart that I may confesse them, plentifull teares that I may bewaile them, a wonderfull misliking that I may abhorre them, a feruent zeale that praying hartely for them, I may by thy mercy bee deliuered from them.

16 O Lord, is there any thing that flesh and bloud may glory of in thy sight? No truly, for their sense is foolish and abhominable before thee, & thou hast asked vs

what we haue, which wee haue not receiued from the fountaine of thy fulnes we haue drawne all that we haue enioyed, and of our selues there is not one that doeth good no Lord, not one.

17 Create in me therefore, O gratious Lord a new heart, and a new soule: turne mee into thy waie, that I may not sinne, confirme me in thy faith that I may not fall, erect me in al good workes that bee acceptable in thy sight, then canno: my mouth cease but alwaies be shewing thy peerelesse praises, and mild mercies,

Amen,

¶ Come

C

¶Come not in the path of the vngodly and walke not in the way of the wicked. *Prouerb 4. verse 14* Cast all your care vppon God, for hee careth for you. *1. Pet. 5. 7.*

¶ The third Flower

COme vnto mee all ye that trauell & be heauie laden, & I will refresh you. Here now I come vnto thee offering my selfe

before thy heauenly maiesty, lowly falling downe vpon the knees of my hart, holding vp the hands of my faith, whereby I may take most assured hope of thee, & come vnto thee.

2 Drawe me vnto thée, for else I am not able to come, I can do nothing thereto of my selfe, not so much as think one good thought, much lesse merite, or deserue to presume vnto thee, vpon respecte of any mine owne worthines: yea draw thée neare vnto me, & bend downe thy mercifull eares vnto my pitious plaintes, and hasten thée, Lorde, to heare my humble requests.

3 As for my worthinesse, it is vn=

vnworthines before thée, my sen=ses bee vnsauorie, my thoughtes be sinfull, my déds be damnable, and the whole course of my life is a poisoned puddle of lamentable destruction: and if thou haue re=garde vnto my merits, then am I sure to haue despaire for mine hire damnatiõ for my deserte and hell for mine inheritance.

4 O thou Almightie, before whome the Angels trenble at their impuritie, the Sunne is fowle, the moone is filthie, the starres vncleane, and the hea=uens are corrupt: what can I haue to boast of in the presence of thy diuine Maiestie, from whom all pureneſs floweth, as a golden

streame

streame, but onely mine owne naturall vncleanlines, and that I am the child of perdition.

5 Supplie thou my defects, O God, and what is wanting in me make it perfect through thée, who art the summe of all goodnes and perfection vnto the righteous and the accomplishment of al that euer mans heart can require, or his fraile estate standeth in nede of: let me not depart destitute frō thee, for in thee is the fulnesse of al felicity.

6 Here where I am Lorde, I am laden sore and greuously ouerpressed with the burden of my sinnes, they weigh me extreamlie downe to the ground, I cannot looke

looke vp for them. & my crushed bones do ake with extreame wearines, and there is none that can lighten me but only thou, and my trust is that thou wilt not deserlong do so.

7 Come, O Lorde, O come spédily, & set to thy helping hand, and rise vp to deliuer him that putteth his trust in thee onlie, for there is none that saueth but thou, none besides thee that forgiueth offences: take from me, I beséech thee, this weight of wickednes, cléere me from this clog of corruption, and seuer me from this sinke of sinne.

8 Humble my heart. that I may haue no vaine liking of my

selfe

selfe, and that my friends neighbours, and acquaintance, finally the world fall into no displeasure against me therfore but especially I stand in feare of thy maiesties wrath, since the offence of selfe-loue is so greeuous, that it hath brought many to destructiō both of body and soule from which let thy mercy preserue me.

9 Fortesle my minde with the strongest armour of patience that I maye take in good parte all mockes, scoffes, reproches, & persecutions for thy truths sake, and when I am prooued, let mee bee found faithfull, let not the dread of death daunt me, nor the loue of life so lead mee away, but that I may

may valiantly leaue it for the testimony of thy vndoubted truth.

10 Confirme me fully, O my Creator, in thy truth & in all godlines: let not shining of promotions, nor thunder of threatninges, nor winde puffes of worldly vanitie, plucke me from that which is right and iust, for that is the onely thing that is acceptable before the presence of thy heauenlie Maiestie: but grant that thy will may be my way, and thy lawe my delight.

11 Driue away al dimnes from mine eies, and sluggishnesse from my feete, that I may speedily behold, and diligently fulfill to my abilitie, the least point and iote of thy

thy precepts: whereto when I haue applied my selfe, yet am I too too much an vnprofitable seruant notwithstanding let thy tender mercy alwaies preuent me. O my most sweete God.

12 Thou hast lifted me vp aloft in the sight of thy people, and hast indued me with great honor aboue my peeres & equals, grant vnto me likewise so much to excell them in vertue and godlines: make me a worthie minister and steward of thy giftes, considering that al power and authoritie commeth from thee, and that thou raisest the vngodly on high to cast him downe low, & the loftier his seate is, the more great and grie-

uous

wous is his fall.

13 Engender in mee, good Lord, agreedie desire to do iu=stice, that hauing thee alwaies before mine eies, and printing thy iudgments within my heart, I may be frée from all affection, and pure from all parcialitie, hauing no respect to the persons, but vp=rightly weighing the causes, that thereby the truth may be aduan=ced, and vniustice condemned.

14 Remoove from me all cor=ruption in iudgement, and vn righteousnes in dealing kéepe my mouth from leasings, & my hands from bloud, remẽbring that thou art the searcher of the heart and reines, thou shalt come to iudge the

the quicke and the dead, repaieng vnto euerye man according vnto the workes of his owne hands.

15 Lord, I beseech thee, make me so liue, that I may haue thy loue, and in al mine actions guide me with thy most speciall grace. Tie me vnto thy holy pleasure, & not vnto mine owne waies, make my sences obedient to thy blessed will, and gouerne thou mine affections, that they bee not offensiue to thy maiesty, and vouchsafe of thy gratious goodnesse to keepe me from all euil.

16 Whensoeuer I shall bee in trouble, or fall into any maner of calamity or vexation, listen Lord vnto the praier and sighes of thy

seruant

seruant which crieth vnto thee, and deliuer mee as thou didst the children of Israell from the greeuous bondage of Pharao, & Daniel from the gaping mouthes of the greedie Lions. For thou art the onelie refuge in time of affliction, and my hope is that thou wilt helpe me at my need.

17 Forgiue me, O my Lord, and my God, the wickednes of my forepassed life, remember not mine offences, neither the offences of my predecessors to laie them vnto my charge, lay foorth the direcle line of thy lawe before my feete that I may walke therein without erring, regenerate a new will within me to perseuere

in thy waie, holde me vp therein that I doo not fal, pricke me forth that I doo not faint, & my tong shal talke continually of thy most glorius goodnes, Amen.

H

¶ Happy are those seruants, whom the Lord when hee commeth, shall finde waking. Verely I say vnto you, that hee shall girde himselfe, and make them to sit downe to meate, and will come forth, and minister vnto them. *Luke. 12 verse. 37.*

¶ The fourth Flower.

HArken vnto the voice of the Lorde thy God, O my sœlie soule

soule, and heare what chærefull promises he hath reposed in store for thæ: namely, that whensoeuer thou repentest thæ of thy sinnes from the bottome of thy heart, hee will blot out the remembraunce of them for euermore, so that they shall neuer be imputed vnto thæ.

2 Come then with spæd, and with all submission cast forth the intollerable burthen of thy most lothsome lustes before the Lorde, acknowledge the multitude of thine iniquities, call vnto him that hee would set open the gates of his manifolde mercies vnto thee, giue thæ a perfect penitent heart, and the spirit of constancie to perseuer in the same.

3 Bend downe thine heauenlie eies, O Lorde, from the celestiall throne of thy glory, and behelde the state and condition of me that lie here in the earth belowe, weltring in this vale of wickednesse, drenched in the dungeō of darknesse, martyred in millions of miseries, couched in this cloake of calamities, lost in this labyrinth of lusts, smoothered in this smoke of sensualitie, greatlie growing from grace, and void of vertue.

4 Wherefore, as thou hast at this present time, so continue with daylie increasing in mee, a mislyking of my life in regarde of imperfections, a loathing of my selfe in respecte of sinne, a desire

vnto

vnto thee by meane of faithfull prayer, hartie contrition, possible satisfaction, innouation of life, continuation of grace, tending vnto the preseruation both of my body, and soule,

5 Send downe vnto me, Lord, the clere loking glasse of thy wisedome, that I may beholde therein the ougliesomenes and deformitie of mine vnrighteousnes, giue me a viall ful of the water of vnfained repentance, that sprinkling my selfe therewith, although I were with sinnes more red then scarlet, I may be made more white than snow.

6 Wash awaie the filthines of my sinnes with a branch of bitter

Iſop, wherein is figured the vnpleaſant taſte of afflictions, troubles, and perſecutions ſent vnto vs by thy hand, moſt righteous God, in liew of our offenſes, and then I ſhall become paſſing pure: turne me vnto thee and I ſhall bee turned, and correct me and I ſhall bee corrected, and laie thy fatherlie chaſtiſement vppon me thy wretched child.

7 For why, I knowe, that whome thou louest thou correcteſt, and euerie one whome thou receiueſt thou exerciſeſt firſt in the ſharpe ſchoole of thy wholeſome diſcipline: this hope therefore I haue repoſed in my heart that I am and ſhall bee thine, as thou

thou hast taught mee to call thee mine, I thy sonne, and thee my father, I a most wretched sinner, and thee a most mercifull God.

8 Neuertheless ouercharge me not, O sweete Lorde, I beseech thee, nor lay not more vpon my backe then I am able to carrie: nor let me not bee tempted aboue my simple power, nor thrust at in such sort that I cannot possible stande: for thou knowest best the infirmitie of my fraile flesh, and the weakenesse of our kind, since we all be thine, and the worke of thy most holy hands.

9 O my God, what is there in this worlde, that men shoulde bee so greedy to continue therein, and

so loth to forgo the frution of this transitory life: while we remaine heere wee are all touched with troubles, those that haue wealth at will are checked with calamities, yea Princes themselues are not alwaies at ease, besides that, wee heape vp daily the desart of thy iudgement.

10 Whilest my daies bee prolonged within this darke den of mortalitie, lighten the Lanterne of thy diuine worde before my feete, that I stumble not against the heape of my heinous offenses, and staie vp my steps with the sauing assistance of thy holie spirit, the comforter of all mankinde, that I fall not downe headlong into

into the deepe dungeon of o. ipe= ration.

11 Likewise, plucke from me the fonde feathers of saucie pre= sumtion, least that taking an hautie conceite in my selfe to bee that which (alas) I am not, thou conceiue displeasure against my pride, and so reueale my filthines, and condemne mine arrogant in= solencie, and therefore cast mee downe thither where there is no redemption.

12 Graciously grant vnto me, O my Lords, and King, that I may neuer take my selfe to bee o= ther than indeede I am make me to be such a one as I ought, and let me bee he that I would, then shal

shall I neuer dwell in errour, thy fauor shall neuer faile me, I hereafter (which notwithstanding I hope) I shall bee an inheritour of thy heuenly kingdome.

13 Lord, I beseech thee, keepe me that I neuer fall into reprobate sense, and suffer me not to be seduced by any false doctrine: let the lines of the law be printed in the bowels of my belie, lighten, inflame, and confirme the hearts of thy chosen people, that they may haue one minde, one will, all alike seeke thee, find thee, see thee and magnifie thy glorious name.

14 Preuent all my doings with thy most fauorable kindenes O Father of mercies, and so direct

direct my waies in thy faith, and feare of thy Maiesty, that I may commit no wickednesse, nor consent thereto: let there be found no guilt in my handes, nor guile in my heart, preserue my lips from lies, from incõtinencie mine eies, my flesh from filth, my soule from sinne, and the whole course of my life from offence, & transgression.

15 O Lord, heare my praiers, let mine earnest crie come into thy presence and enter into thine eares, which I yeelde heere vnto thee from the verie depth of my hart, with a wounded conscience, and a bleeding soule, with broken sighes, and weeping eies, bended knees, and stretched handes: but

which

which is moſt, with ardent affec tion.and feruent faith).

16 Accoꝛding to thy pꝛomiſe, poure vpon me the ſpirit of grace and meekenes,in my pꝛaier euer=more with vnſpeakable gronings to make interceſſion vnto thee foꝛ my ſinnes, not with the labour of my lips alone, but with the fer=uent affection of my heart alſo, that both my mouth and minde, tong and truth, may alwaies go togither,as it becommeth the vn=fained woꝛſhippers of thee.

17 Wend downe thy ſelfe, O bende downe vnto my piteous plaintes, thou God of our Fa=thers,and accoꝛding as thou haſt ſpoken, let it bee downe vnto thy

ſeruant

seruant. Great is thy grace, O grant me thy grace: manifold are thy mercies, O shewe mee thy mercie: puisant is thy power, O sende me thy power, that I may turne from sinne & turne to thee, leaue my olde life and lead a new, that I may alwaies bee thy seruãt, and thou likewise eternally be mine eternall God Amen.

O

¶ O thou Earth, Earth, Earth, heare the worde of the Lorde, *Ierem.* 22. *verſe.* 20. Of a truth GOD hath no regarde of perſons, but in euerie nation, hee that feareth him, and worketh righteouſneſſe, is accepted with him *Acts.* 13. 34 *and* 35.

¶ The fift Flower.

O Euerlaſting God, and moſt louing father, maker of all the worlde, King of bliſſe, Lorde of life, giuer of peace, and continuer of con=

concord, looke downe into the bottome and deapth of my conscience, and consider the perpetuall afflictions which daily I sustaine therein to the dangerous distres, and wonderfull wounding of the same.

2. Strenthen me, O Lorde, against the furious inuasions of three thy moste mortall foes, the flesh, the worlde, and the Diuell, which to the intent they might suppresse me, cease not continually with al their force, to assaile the seelie spirit which thou hast lent vnto me, the worke of thy wisedome, and the image of thy substance.

3. My most sweet God, kepe me

me with the winges of thy ver=tue, assist me with thy holie ghost, that I may heedfully withholde my feete from all snares, and traps, which may anye waie in=tangle mee, and withdraw mée from due obedience towards thée & thy will, staying me from walking forwarde in thy heauenlie heastes that leade to life.

4 For Satan mine ancient e=nimie, seeketh out a thousande meanes to beguile mee, hee excel=leth in subtletie, hé aboundeth in crafte, hée passeth in wilinesse, in somuch that he transformeth his lothsome shape into the likenesse of an angell of light, thereby to supplant thine elect, but defende

thou

thou me from him, O my moſt mighty God.

5 Ponder the nature and diſpoſition of my fraile and corrupt fleſh, howe it is nothing elſe but the graue of my ghoſt, a farden of infirmities, a lumpe of loathſommeſſe, a priſon of perdition, a maſſe of miſeries, a ſinke of ſinne, a labyrenth of licentiouſneſſe, and a frame of froward mouldc, contrarie to that which is good, and alwaies prompte preſt to the worſe.

6 As for this worlde, it is the vale of wilfulneſſe, the waye of wicked conuerſation, a iourney fraught with icopardie, a pilgrimage fullie pight with piteous

pinings, a deepe dungeon of de-
ſtruction, an infectious ſoule with
ſinfulneſſe, a lake of vnlawfull
luſtes, and a tree of traiterous
fruits, repugnant, O God, to thy
moſt ſacred will,

7 The Diuell is the darling
of damnation, the prince of dread-
full darkeneſſe, the king of cala-
mities, the wicked worker of
woes, the feend of finall deſtruc-
tion, the greedie gaper for mans
procured perdition, the poiſoned
puddle of lies, the ſneaking ſnake
of ſinne, the ſerpent of trouble-
ſome temtations, the minger of
all miſchiefes, & the ouerthrower
of vertues.

8 But thou, O moſt glorious
God

God, as thou hast lightned my vnderstanding and perseuerance in these to discerne what is hurtfull to me, and displeasant to thee: dispose euen so the heart of thy seruant with the dailie influence of thy grace, that I may bee acquit from all such sharpe assaults as may winne me from thee, but confirme me in al godlines, truth, and faithfulnes.

9 Make my heart the vndefiled instrumente of pure and perfecte thoughtes, and my tongue the trump of thine eternall praise, my bodie the habitation of the holie Ghost, mine eies the windoares to behold the worthie waie that leadeth vnto thee, my legges the

supporters of my bodie and soule, towardes the attainment of thy heauenly kingdome.

10 Incline mine eares that I may giue diligent attendance vnto thy most blessid wil and commaundements expressed in thy most sacred worde, mollifie the hardnes of my heart that it may easilie enter in, and firmely take roote to the increase of semblant fœdes of vertue and godlinesse in me, grant this, O Lorde, for my delight is in thy seruice.

11 Knocke hard O Lord God O knock hard at the dore of my conscience, with the ringle of thy most holy wil, awake me out of the snorking sleepe of securitie in sinning

sinning, whereout many do neuer rise againe but vtterly perish, put me in mind of my dutie towardes thy diuine Maiestie, let me haue the wisedome to knowe my selfe, and that thou onelie art my good Lord and God.

12 I confesse with greeuous groning of hart, that I haue manifoldye transgressed thy commaundements, in seeking thee I haue imbraced y which I should haue refused: I haue straggled long whilest I should haue walked in thy waies, and trod in thy paths, I haue gone backe when I should haue pursued thy pleasure, and haue trained my selfe in the trauerse of thy teachings.

13 Leade me. O Lord, with thy heauenlie hand and I shall be trulie lead, direct mee with the spirite of vnderstanding and I shall bee safelie directed, leite the bright burning lamp of thy wonderfull worde still shine before mine eies, & pearse into my heart, so shall I bee sure not to treade one step amisse, bee thou alwaies my most mercifull God, and make me continually thy most obedient child.

14 Blot the beadroll of my misdeeds out of thy remembrance O thou King of mercye, and indorse the recordes of my transgressions with a discharge of thy great compassion, set thy holie hand

hand vpon my heart in token that I am thy childe, and write the wordes of thy pleasure in my brest, make me assured that I am one whome thou hast predestinated vnto life.

15 At all times, Lorde, euen now and euerie day I commende my soule and bodie into thy holye hands, for thou hast redeemed me O God of truth. Bee thou my strong defense against mine enimies, fight against them that go about to defame hurt, ouerthrow, cast downe, kill, and vtterlie destroie me. Vtidle the force of my ghostly enemie Sathan, that not withstanding all his craftie trames, hee maie not haue the

power to do me any euill.

16 Giue thine holie Angels charge ouer me, that they maye protect and defende me in all my waies that I hit not my foote against a stone, nor be annoied by anie greeuious thing that maye hurt me in bodie, or harme mi soule, or make mee so to misdemeane my selfe, that I become more vile in thy sight, and so being offended with me, thou be the lesse readie to deliuer mee in my greatest perils.

15 Glorifie thy selfe in mee Lorde, for I am thy worke, and let me be glorified in thee, for thou art my God, my strength, my saluation and glory: purifie my soule that

that thou maiſt dwell in me, and grant I may be made worthie to dwell in thee: for thou art in all things, and all things are in thee to thee therefore be praiſe and honor for euer and euer Amen.

L

¶ Learne to doe well, applie your ſelues to equitie, deliuer the oppreſſed, helpe the fatherles to his righte, let the widowes complaint come before you *Eſai.* 1. 17.

¶ The ſixt Flower

LOrde, in thy moſt louing mercies haue I alwaies put my

my whole truſt and confidence, wherefore thou haſt aſſured mee that I ſhall come to no reproche nor ſhame, there ſhall no ignominie nor confuſion take holde vpon me, and although there ſhould riſe whole thouſandes of wicked conſpiratours againſt mee, yet ſhould they not preuaile, for thou art the portion of my hope.

2 According vnto which moſt ſweete couenants of thine, ſo let thy kindnes more than fatherlie compas me alwaies, like the garment wherewith I am couered: lette thy mercies bee vnto mee a ſhield of defenſe, and a buckler of aſſured protection, that I maye neuer dreade the furie of any foe,

ſtriuing

ſtriuing he to ouerthrowe my bo=dy or ſoule.

3 O turne the hearts of thoſe that hate me without a cauſe, or be offended with me for thy bleſſings ſake, wherewith thou haſt bleſſed mee, either becauſe thou haſt increaſed me with wealth, or aduanced me to honour, or lifted mee into the fauour of my gratious Soueraigne, wherein I yeelde thy Maieſtie moſt hartie thanks.

4 Make me, O Lorde, an eét member for the vocation where=unto thou haſt called me, graunt me the gift of godlineſſe, as thou haſt planted me in preheminence of place, let vertue flouriſh, & vice be

be suppressed the righteous cause of the orphane, widow, and such as are destitute preuaile, and the oppressour receiue his deserued foile.

5 Bring it thou to effect, O almightie God, from whom proceedeth the motion of all good thoughts, that as thou hast made thine onely Sonne, our sauiour Christ the sole shepheard of thy faithfull flocke: so we may all loue his presence, knowe his voice, and followe him in sinceritie of life, and puritie of doctrine. all the daies of this our wofull pilgrimage.

6 I hartily beseech thee, Lord that in consideration of mine vn

righte-

righteousnesse, thou giue me not ouer into the handes of mine enimies, and such as faine would see my fall, and reioice at my final destruction, & especially deliuer me from false prophets & preachers which seeke only their owne commoditie, and not the replenishing of thy hungry peoples soules.

2 Grant euermore, O God vnto thy sacred Church suche sinceritie in the Bishops and ministers, that they may proue the vessels of thy mercy, and profitable instrumentes in thy congregation: make them so sounde in doctrine, so pure in life, so diligent in teaching, that we may become a chosen and deerely beloued peo-

ple

ple vnto thee, and they neuer forsake their calling either through persecution of tyrants, or ingratitude of the world.

8 Cause mee to take a most singular delight in the reading, and hearing of thy holie Gospell, to frame my life according vnto the sacred institutions of thy worthie worde: without which, all other doctrine concerning the worshipping of thee, is diuelish and vngodly, & that by al meanes I may seeke the setting foorth of the same.

9 Let the enemies of thy truth be enemies vnto me also, that embracing their persons with laudable charitie, I may notwithstanding

ſtanding perſecute their offences vnto the amẽdment of their liues and conuerſation, and that they may vnderſtand at length, that thou art a moſt ſharpe reuenger, and a iealous God, and wilt not giue thine honour to another.

10 O moſt mighty King and giuer of all gratious goodneſſe, conuert the heartes of all ſuch as perſecute thy Chriſt in his mem=bers thine elect, open their eies I beſeech thee, that they may behold their errors, and repent them of their miſdeedes, and confirme the heartes of the afflicted, that they may perſiſt in confeſſing thy name.

11 Mercifullie call me backe, for

for I acknowledge that for my part, I haue walked wrong, thou hast giuen me vnderstanding to perceiue mine owne imperfections, the multitude of them lieth heaped before mine eies, and my heart is sore greeued therewith: O comfort me, good Lorde, and quicken me eftsoones in thee, that I faint not for feare, nor despeire not for dread.

22 I haue bin continually more ready to offend thy maiestie, than to execute thy heuenly will: there is no maner of meanes wherein a man may displease thee that I am guiltlesse of, take mercy vpon me and forgiue me therfore, for I am determined neuer againe to commit

commit the like, strengthen mee with thy spirit that I neuer sin hereafter.

13 Most louing Father, and mercifull God, I hartilie require thee, for my Lord Iesus Christs sake, grant me that I may couet with a prudēt mind those things that bee pleasant and acceptable vnto thee, that I may haue them easilie, search them wisely, know them truely, and exercise them effectuallie, to the worthie praise of thy glorious name.

14 Dispose the whole course of my life in such order, that I may accomplish that which thy godly pleasure requireth at my handes: that I may perfectlye

know it, haue a willing minde to doo it, and power from thee to fulfill it, whereby I may obtaine those things, that be most conuenient for my necessities, and appertaining to my saluation.

15 Heere vp my hart, O my most deere God, with the hope of thy plentious promises, & make me alwaies as merciefull as it becommeth a Christian, & one that feereth God, giue me grace euer to reioyce in thee and thy godlie will, and that I may be sorrie for nothing, but only for doing those things that draw me away from thee, to euil.

15 Thou that art the onelie rampire of mans security, defend me

me I beseech thee in all seasons, that in the darke time I fall into no danger through the force of foes, or allurement of bane delites, or any manner casualities: and that I maye passe the night without dreadfull dreames, or fonde fantasies, or lewde illusions, which Satan inuenteth to driue mee from my duty and to disturbe my rest, which I desire to take in thee.

17 O Lorde God of infinite wisedome, inspire my heart, and direct my voice, that I may not thinke, nor utter any thing before thee, but that which thou knowest to bee expedient for mee to aske, & glorious for thee to giue

turne not my praier into perditi=
on . nor my ſute vnto ſinne, for
thou art my God on whome I
who lie depende, ſaue mee for
thy mercies ſake, O ſaue me, ac=
cording as I haue alwaies repo=
ſed my confidence in thee Amen.

A.

A mans almes is a purſe
with him, and ſhall keepe a
mans fauour as the apple of
an eie : and afterwarde ſhall it
ariſe, and paie euerie man his
reward vpon his head. *Eccle, 17
verſe 20.*

¶ The seuenth Flower.

Cording vnto the incomprehēsible nūber of thy manifolde mercies, O lord, take pittie and compassion vpon me, discharge me, of the importable fraught of mine infirmities, for thou art he that lowsest and none can bind, and that bindest & none can lowse: lowse me therefore I beseech ther, from the lothsome burden of my sin, & bind me that I may not departe from thy statutes.

2 O thou God of my power,

make my heart to resemble the dzielt towe, and let the most fer= uent loue of thy lawes, kindle, as it were a flaming fire within my dzeast, that I may so bee consu= med with a greedy zeale in fulfi= ling thy heastes: let no coole of concience in any wise extinguish this burning, nor yet lukewarm= nesse allwage this heate.

3 Let others see this in mee, that they may take example ther= at, and be confirmed in godlines, for I am grieuie grecued that I haue beene vnacquainted with thy welsprings of truth, & haue ensued the puddle of iniquitie, augmenting mine offence, & hea= ping sinne vpon sinne, wherby I haue

haue growne in more daunger of thy iudgement.

4 Surelie, Lord, I am a most grieuous offender, but thou hast sayd, that thou seekest not the death of a sinner but rather that hee turne from his wickednesse and liue: turne mee then and I shall surelie bee turned, saie thou the worde, and doubtlesse I shall liue, for in that thou art almightie thou canst conuert, and because thou art merciful thou canst saue.

5 Remember, O most iust, holie, and louing God, that thou art both my maker, & redeemer: and as thou didst create mee of singular loue, and redeemest mee of

meruellous mercie, to extend thy fauour alwaies towardes mee, calling to mind that I am stil the same, both thy wonderous worke and thy seely seruant.

6 Thinke not mie longer, sweete God, vpon thy iustice, in respect of mie that am a most miserable transgressour, but rather weigh thy singular cõpassion towardes thy afflicted creature: for my conscience beareth me record I haue deserued thy wrath, and without thee I cannot sufficientlie repent mee for mine offences.

7 Howbeit, most certaine it is that thy mercies doe surmount the deepth of the moste deadliest sinnes

sinnes, thy medicines are greater than the greefe of my sickenesse is grieuous & thy power surpasseth all the infirmities of humaine kinde, and far exceedeth the excesses of my fraile flesh, that I am not able to offende so much, but thou art of might to pardon mee more.

8 Spare me therefore, O God of my strength, for in thee is my health, and as for the confusion of a sinner thou doest not desire it, but rather seekest his conuersion from sinne to thee: bee mercifull at the sute of a sinfull soule that standeth in dreade of thy dirie iudgment, looking for deliuerance, and running for refuge to

the

the doubted rampire of thy milde mercies.

9 Pardon me, Lord, if at any time I haue sought the aide of any creature, neglecting thée that art the Creatour of all thinges, without whom there is no health nor saluation, if I haue dronken of the loathsome lakes, and refused thee that art the fountaine of life, if I haue fullie fedde on wicked wordes, and passed by the holsome herbes of diuine doctrine.

10 I haue erred, Lorde, and gone astraie like a wilfull sheepe, and hearkened vnto the voice of sacred sheapheardes that had no part with thee, I haue bin lost in the

the wildernesse of wicked superstition and Idolatrie, and tourne in the hearts of such as sought my fleece, and cared not for my soule but to destroie it, I haue tasted of the deadly dearwe, and the rot is entred into my veines.

11 I am extreame sick that I cannot stand vpon my legges, I am not able to lift vp my voice, for my lunges are infected, my throat is hoarse with crying, I am vexed with a cough, and the terrible stitch assaulteth mee so sore within my ribbes, that I am nothing but a carcasse fraught with care, and a wretch wrapped in sinfull sicknesses.

12 O come, thou God of my sal=

ſaluation come viſite thy poore ſeruant, bring mee home which am loſte, and direct me that haue gone aſtraie, teach me to knowe the liuely ſound of thy moſte holie word, that I may wholy harken thereto, and to the voice of none other that ſhall happen to call vnto me, ſaying, Loe, here is Chriſt, or there is Chriſt.

13 Mercifull Lord, take from amonge the congregation of Chriſtians all maner words & termes that importe anie diuiſion among brethren and profeſſours of thy name. Let not one holde of Paule, and another of Apollos, but let all be Chriſts And grant that through pride and ſingulari

tie

tie none contemne others, but let vs humbly and lovingly like brethren one praie for another, that wee may all walke in thy truth, and be saued.

14 I praise thée, I magnifie thée, I glorifie thée, I extoll thine holy name, O my most glorious Sauiour Christ, for that it hath pleased thée alwaies to assist mée with thy mighty hand and to hold me vp with thy stretched out arme, so that my foes could neuer preuaile against mee, nor the childe of wickednesse bring mee to destruction. Vanish from me, I beséech thée, all priuie enemies, and preserue me euermore from dissembling friendes.

15 Saue

15 Saue me Lorde, from the vnsauerie smell of Pharisaicall superstition that my heart neuer be defiled therewith, and for thy mercies sake assist me most graciously, that I fall not into anie dotage of diuilish idolitrie, for thou art a ielous God, and wilt not suffer thine honour to be giuen to other, and besides thee there is none that can helpe.

16 I haue fed, O Lorde, too much at full vpon the lugred delightes of this wicked worlde, which indeede are sauced with most bitter wormewood, the taste of them is pleasant, but the taile is abhominable tart, I haue chawed them with pleasure, but they haue

haue cheaked mee with cares, they seemed vnto me as toothsome Triacles but I haue found them pestilent poisons.

17 Deliuer mee gratious God, through thy great goodnesse, and bee mercifull vnto mee for thy names sake: saie vnto mee, I will bee thy comfort, & vnto my soule, I will be thy protection, then shall there no danger daunt my heart, nor ghostlie greefe procure mine annoie, but that I may alwaies cheerefullie sing forth thy noble praise for euer. Amen.

Saie

S.

¶ Say not vnto thy neighbor, Go thy waie and come againe, to morrowe I wil giue thee, whereas thou hast nowe to giue him. *Prouerbs. 3. verse. 28*

¶ The eight Flower.

SAluation, immortalitie, and vnspeakable pleasures, O God, are prepared bountifullie to embrace those that put their trust in thee, and without all doublenes of heart, or contagion of sin, leade

lead forth the lingring steps of their loathsome life, in the waies of truth and obedience towardes thy commaundements.

2 Thy waies moste sweete Lorde, are the waies of wealth, and thy commaundements conduct vnto heauenlie honour, thou hast laid forth a straight path vnto those that haue grace to walke therein, and set them a light that they shall not go amisse, and thou hast promised most singular rewardes vnto such as obey thy most worthy will.

3 As for thy will, it is the welspring of welfare, the path of peace, the sea of securitie, the port of perfection, and the fountaine of

all felicitie. wherefore I woulde faine bee clenſed, that I might treade foorth the time of this daungerous pilgrimage, in accomplishinge of thy heauenlye heastes, and fulfilling thy ſtatutes that are ſo full of conſolation.

4 O thou, that art the God of all truth, which in puritie doſt paſſe the angels, and exceedeſt the ſaints in perfection in reſpect of whoſe holineſſe, all things are vile and ſinfull: my poore panting ghoſt ſore longeth after thee, for that thou art the conſummation of all goodneſſe, and in the ſight of thy glory, I am aſhamed of mine owne vnrighteouſneſſe.

5 Lord

5 Lorde, faine wauldе I intreat thy maieſtie, and I dow moſt heartilye requeſt the ſame, that thou wouldeſt behoulde the wofull afflictions, greefes, miſeries ſtripes, ſores, & woundes, which my ſoule ſuſtaineth throughe the continuall ſurpriſe of my cancred ſinnes. and in the large abundance of thy milde mercies, heale them with thy holy hand.

6 Wo am I my God, that I appeare before thée thus couered quight in a ſacke of ſinne, my filthineſſe maketh me ſtand in feare of thée, and horrour of my ſelfe, I tremble to thinke what one thou ſeeſt of mee, if poſſible thou maiſt ſée mee for the number of my ſins

that exceede the flowers of the spring, or leaues of the trées.

7 Howbeit, these sinnes of mine, O God of all mercies, do much desire to bee knowne vnto thee, that thou mightest cleanse them: but loath are they to bee seene, least thou shouldest detest them: and healed they cannot bee without humble confession, and recited they cannot bee without great confusion: if they be hidde they cannot be cured, and if they be vttered, they must needes bee abhorred.

8 O, they kill me with care, they daunt me with dread, they cõsume me with sorrow they pine me with paine, they eate me with greefe,

greefe, they ouerthrowe me with bigneſſe, they preſſe mee with weight, they ouerlaie mee with loade, they ſquize me with multitude, through them I am hurt, mained, vndone, loſt, & brought vnto an vtter deſtruction.

9 O come, ſweete God, O come with all ſpéede to helpe mee for heaps of heauines, as waues of waters haue entred into my ſoule to drench it: I am choked with mortall cares, and ſtifled in the ſtinking ſtreames of ghoſtlie aduerſitie, and there is none but thou, Lorde, that can ſet hand to helpe me forth, or is of abilitie to procure me ſuccour.

10 For thou art the God of

all gods, the most potent of all puissants, the king of glorie, of strength, of power, of vertue, of truth, of righteoulnes, of perfec= tion, of comfort, of gladneſſe, of ſaluation and eternitie, in whome compaſſion groweth as in a field, and from whome there flowеth mercie, as it were continuall ſtreames of moſte plentifull run= ning waters.

11 Refraine not, I beſeeche thee, to extende ſome mercie, whereas thou beholdeſt ſo vrgent miſerie: and if I bee diſmaide in regard of thy cœleſtiall puritie, to acknowledge my ſinfulneſſe be= fore thy Maieſtie, yet be not thou ſlacke good Lord in conſideration of

of thine accuſtomed gratiouſnes, to extende thy fatherly pittie, and forgiuenes.

12 Turne not awaye from me paore wretch, thy wonted benignitie, for ſo much as I confeſſe my dailie iniquitie, and although my ſinnes be mo in number than is for mee méete and fitting, yet lette thy mercie bee no leſſe than it is decent for ſo gentle and pitifull a God, O thou that art aſſuredlie the onelie God of loue, compaſſion, mercy, and of all fauourablenes.

13 Howe much the more abhominable my ſinnes are in thy ſight, yéelding forth a lothſome ſmell of diſpleaſure in thy pre-

ſence O God: ſo much the more do they ſtand in neede of holſome cure, which of neceſſitie proceedeth from thée and none other, to requite the ſame with ſuch integritie & newneſſe of life, as may be acceptable vnto thee.

14 And therefore do I lift vp my ſoule vnto thy throne, & with my bodie do I approch vnto thy ſacred place, and thus vpon the knées of my heart do I humblie praye vnto thy Maieſtie: Lord, laie not the horrible confuſion of mine vncleanneſſe before thine eies, but turne thy face from my offenſes, and looke vpon the infirmitie of my nature, and the trouble of my ſpirit, and the do-

lour

lour of my minde, and forgiue all my sinnes.

15 So great are the mountaines of my misdeedes, that in consideration of them there is no rest in my bones, so infinite are mine iniquities that they are growne ouer my head pressinge me down as an heauy burden. O Lord asswage thy iust anger, and cole thy conceiued displesure against me, and remit not only my trespasses, but also the seuere punishment that is due vnto me for them.

16 Heale, I beseech thee, O moste singular good Lorde, my grieuous infirmitie, and so shalt thou ridde mee of that which offendeth

fendeth thee my woefull deformitie: acquite me from my contagious sickenesse, and thou shalt smell no more my most horrible loathsomnesse, pardon within me this bitter calamitie, and nothing shal longer offend thy sinceritie.

17 Create in me, O Lorde God, a most godly zeale and fervent desire to persevere alwaies within the compasse of thy heavenlie will, and never to commit any thing that is repugnant vnto the same assisting me also with thy holie spirite, that I faile not in this most godly purpose, but stedfastly pursue it vnto the last date of my life, so shall I bee assuredlie safe from sin, and my tong

shal

shall alwaies be telling thy peere lesse praises, Amen.

A.

¶ A gratious woman getteth honour, an huswifelie woman is a crowne vnto hir husband: but she that behaueth hir selfe vnhonestlie, is a corruption in his bones, *Prou 12. verse. 4.*

¶ The ninth Flower.

A Child that hath transgressed the commaundement of his Maister, standeth in awe of the rod:

rodde: euen so, O Lorde, am I in great dread of thy iudgment, for that is the hire of such as obserue not thy heastes, because I haue not walked after thy wil nor harkened vnto the voice of thy word, but runne forth on the reine of mine own sensuality.

2 But thou hast made a couenant with me, that whensoeuer I conuert my selfe vnto thee thou wilt fauourablie turne thy face vnto me, & if I repent, thou wilt forgiue, if I bee sorie, thou wilt remember mine offences no longer: see then Lord, for I bring with me nowe the branch of sorrowe, and here I holde it vp vnto thee for a monument of thy re-

mem-

memorance.

3 Saue mee, good Lorde, as hitherto thou hast done, deliuer mee in the day of distresse, for thou art the horne of my health, and the shield of my saluation, and the gaine of my glory, and the crowne of my felicitie: I haue no power at all, but it proceedeth from thee, and thou beerest vp the feeblenes of mine infirmitie, and thy mercy is my staffe to leane vpon.

3 From the gaping of the graue, and from the dangers of death, and from the snares of Sathan, and from the chaines of Hell. and when I was swallowed vp, thou didest deliuer my soule from the destruction: I was

wrapped in woe, but I am set at libertie euen as a birde that was fallen into the fowlers line, and at length is looſed by ſome good bodie.

5 What man is he, Lord, that caſting vp his eies to the ſkies, and there beholding the beautie of the heauens, the glorie of the Sunne and Moone, and the excellencie of the Starres, & from thence conſidering the varietie of the creatures vpon the earth, and eſpecialie the workemanſhip of his owne feature is not wonderfullie rauiſhed to weigh thy power, and ſtrangely affected to think on thy goodneſſe?

6 Euerlaſting God, I giue thee

thee moſt hartie thanks, for that thou erecteſt my minde vnto thée by this moſt comfortable contemplation, and alſo for thy exceeding goodneſſe in creating the vniuerſall worlde, and all the creatures that liue and moue in the ſame: whome by thy holie ſpirite thou vpholdeſt and cheriſheſt, as well man himſelfe, as all thinges elſe that thou haſt made ſeruing to his neceſſarie vſe, and godly pleaſure.

7 For theſe thy bountifull benefits, O GOD, take from me the vice of vnthankefulneſſe, that I may thinke and thanke thee therefore, and graciouſlie diſpoſe the waies of thy ſeruant, that I may

may cõtinue in thy pleasure: but if thou wouldest so direct me that I might offend thée no more here after, there shoulde be no ioy comparable vnto mine.

8 They are hated of thée that ow turne thy plenitful blessinges into scarsitie, and they are partakers of their wickednesse that are in authoritie seeing it, and ow not redresse it: open their eies, swete God, that they may sée it, and indeuour their hartes to amende it, that thy people perish not through the iniquitie of a few, that haue heaped vp a great sinne.

2 I haue praied vnto thée with an earnest hart for all my imperfections

ſections, to bee deliuered of them. & now I humblie ſue, good Lord, that thou wouldeſt vouchſafe to preſerue mee from the dæde that may prouoke the bitternes of any mans ſoule againſt me, for I am aſſured that the ſame is ſuch an offenſe, as thou wilt repaie with bitter vengeance.

10 There be ſome that haue laid waite to entrap me, and they woulde bee exceeding glad of my fall, but my truſt is in thee, that thou wilt not giue mee ouer as a pray to mine enimies: make their deſires voide, and ouerthrowe their craftie deuiſes, let them bee confounded in their owne drifts, & faile of their purpoſe, that

they wickedly haue inuented.

11 Pardon mee, O God, in all my presumtions, forgiue thē that persecute mee, make me loue them that hate me, & hartelie to pray for them that wish my finall destruction: howbeit, I beseech thée, Lorde, to saue me from their hãds, least if thou shouldest forsake me, I fall into their power, and their be none to defend me from their malice.

12 Trulie Lorde, I am fullie determined to make thy precepts a garden of pleasure, & thy lawes an alley of delight, and thy heastes an harbour of comforte to take my recreation therin during the daies of my flesh: onelie

I reqeſt thee of thy goodneſſe to graunt mee thy grace, with the continuance of this good worke which thou haſt begun in me.

13 Since thou lotheſt, Lord, an vngodlie and ſinfull life, giue me power, I pray thee to flie the foule workes of the fleſh, which thou doeſt hate, and to imbrace the bright deedes of righteouſneſſe which thou deſt loue, and in them to ſeeke thy glory: incline my minde alwaies to meditate on thy lawe, and to caſt all the cares of my heart vpon thee.

14 The paſſion, death and buriall, the reſurrection, apparition and aſcenſion of thee, my ſweete ſauiour Chriſt, I humblie adore,

and giue hartie thanks for them: for in them there riseth vnto mée a sauor of life, through the quickning smel of all these raise vp my soule, I praie thée, good Lorde, from the dreadfull death of sinne, and damnation.

15 O dust and ashes, whie doest thou walke with a proude heart, and stretched out neck, and whie art thou moued with impatience against euerie trifling aduersitie? Beholde the meekenesse and humilitie of thy redeemer, and learne to bée humble of heart, and lowe of courage, bee ashamed of pride, and blushe for want of patience,

16 Lord, if I could giue vnto thee

the heauen and earthe, and all the glorie thereof for hire, from the top of my rewarde, I coulde not sufficiently recompense the deapth of thy desert: yet giue me that grace, that so farre as mine abilitie extendeth, I may requite thy bountie with thankes, & shew howe much I am betered by thy heauenly liberality.

17 Giue me thy peace which the worlde cannot giue grant mee the ioie which thine elect doo possesse, sustaine mee with the comfort that neuer shall be void, erect me with the hope ỳ shall alwaies persist, instructe mee with thy worde that euer shall endure, aduance mee to thy kingdome that

neuer shall haue an ende, and thy glorie shall still liue in me, for I shall neuer die, Amen.

N.

¶ No thought may escape God, neither may anie worde be hid from him, hee hath garnished the highe excellent workes of his wisedome. and hee is from euerlasting to euerlasting. *Ecc: 42. verse. 20. and 21.*

¶ The tenth Flower.

NEwnesse of lyfe, and singlenesse of heart, and an vndefiled

filed waie, are the very offerings of sweete incense vnto thee, O thou most righteous God, and thou acceptst the sorrowfull sute of a martyzed minde, in what time soeuer he powzeth forth his plaint vnto thée: so hearken vnto me, I beseech thée, for heauinesse hath builded his bower within my breast.

2 I come vnto thée betimes in the mozning, and late in the night, and at high noone, & when I goe to rest, and when I rise againe. When I am alone, & when I am in compame, Wether I be in thy holie Church, oz in my secret chamber, & all is foz thy mercy, O Lozd, foz why, thou hast no

respect of the parson, time, or place.

3 Haue mercie vpon mee, O Lord, according to thy great and ancient mercies, and as thy compassions haue bin manie in multitude, so doe awaie mine iniquities that are infinite. For alas, I am as sinfull as anie creature, and thou art as merciful as euer thou wast. Be gratious and forgiue mee, as I am euermore of nature inclined to aggrauate thy wrath by my continuall transgressions.

4 Washe me throughlie from mine exceeding vnrighteousnesse and clense mee purelie from the impure blemishes of my sinne: thinke

thinke on thy mercies and forget my misdeedes, and remember that it is more glorious for thee to bee called a mercifull Father, than to be termed a seuere iudge, for the one of these commeth of thine owne nature, and the other proceedeth from our deserts.

5 Multiplie in me the giftes of thy grace, & conuert thy foes through my force, make my body an instrument of all goodnesse, which shall come to passe, if thou clense the vncleanes of my soule, scoure away the vnseemely spots of my stained conscience, examine my thoughts, and innouate a new degree of desires within my heart.

6 Lord,

6 Lorde, graunt I beseeche thee, that wether I be in welth or in woe, in health or in sickness wether I eate or drinke, sleepe or wake, trauell or take my rest, or whatsoeuer I doe, I may doe it in thee, and for thee, and by thee, and nothing without thee, for my desire is alwaies if it might bee possible to bee with thee and neuer to be from thee.

7 Plant fast thy pleasure in the bottome of my breast, for thy will, O God, is the worker of my wealthe, and my will is the weauer of my woe, thy law is the leader vnto light, and my law is the loser of my life, thy heastes are the healpers vnto health, and my

my heastes are the heapers vp of my heauinesse, thy preceptes are the porte of peace, and my preceptes are the passing to perfition.

8 This world where I am, Lorde, may well bee tearmed the vale of wickednesse. for heere is nothing else but pride, malice, partialite. trouble, enuie, veration, strife, carefulnesse, ambition couetousnesse, briberie, extortion, vsurie, idle othes, & abhominable periurie, whordome hypocrisie, and all vncleanlinesse, bitter contention for the trueth of thy word, and no man that careth to follow it.

9 O Lorde, that it might

please

pleaſe thee to quench the thirſt of this worldlie vanitie that biteth ſo ſharpe within the breaſte of mortall men, that they might ſee what it is that they ſeeke for, and learne to looke after that which they loſe, that by due conference of the twaine, they may beholde their follie, and heartilie repent them while they haue reſpit.

10 The gaine of thy grace, O thou great GOD, ſhall euermore bee the brightneſſe of my beautie for I will requeſt nothing but thy mercie, and put my confidence in no creature but in thee onelie: if I haue that, then am I happie, and if I bee with thee, I am bleſſed, and I will ſing forth thy

thy praises in the congregation of thy faithfull people:

11 Lorde, thou knowest how little the righteousnesse is which I haue, and yet that which I haue is altogether to bee reputed thine, for it is euident that I can aloneliе doe no good deede but not so much as name God, were it not through the holie Ghost, and vnlesse thou giue the power, which saiest that without thée we can do no thing.

12 Open my mouth, that with all my soule I may make humble supplications vnto thee, and confesse my selfe vnto thy diuine maiestie, saying: thou hast wrought all good workes in vs, and there

fore

foꝛe in reſpecte of them wee may ſing with thy princelie Pꝛophet Dauid, Not vnto vs Loꝛde, not vnto vs, but vnto thy name giue the glory.

13 So farre as in me lieth, I will endeuour that thy moſt woꝛthie fame ſhall ſtretch vnto the endles of the woꝛld vnto turks and infidels, that haue no knowledge of thee, oꝛ ſuch as liue in miſbeleefe of thy truth: and I beſeeche thee co arme the preachers of thy woꝛd with boldnes, and vnderſtanding, that they may faile foꝛ no feare, to tell the truth, noꝛ bee coꝛrupt with ignorance nor hereſie.

14 Thou art moſt woꝛthie, O Loꝛd

Lorde God, to bee loued and honoured, for thy great goodneſſe and vnſearchable wiſedome, and all other perfections without number or ende, that art verie perfection it ſelfe: and all that euer wee can yeilde vnto thee, in faith, feare, or loue, is too too little and verie nothing in reſpecte of that which thou haſt deſerued.

15 If thou ſhouldeſt lay vnto our charge, the greeuious default of innocencie, and righteouſneſſe, which is required to be in vs, by thy commandements, O Lorde, how could we indure the ſharpeneſſe of thy iudgement? for wee were aſſured to periſh eternallie: but lende mee the ſhielde of thy mercy

mercie, to defend mee against the stroake of thy iust wrath.

16 Reueale vnto mine eies the beautie and comlines of vertues, and the fowlnesse and deformitie of vices, that I may fall in loue with the one, and in mislliking with the other, taking a spetiall regarde which of them I should harbour in my heart, submitting my selfe vnto thy heauenlie disposition, as I may be made meetest to serue thee.

17 I will laude thée O Lord my strength, with my lips, and I will magnifie thy might with my mouth, I will loue thy lawes as my life, and walke in thy will as my waie, I will sing forth thy

thy ſaluation in my ſong, & muſe on thy mercies in my minde, I will hang vp thy hope in my hart and burie thy bountie in my boſome, Amen.

N.

¶ Now I ſee that they which feare God haue the right ſpirit, for their hope ſtandeth in him that can helpe them: and the eies of the Lorde are on them that loue him. *Eccl. 34. verſe. 13.*

¶ The xi. Flower.

NEuer let me doe the thing, O Lord, that is diſpleaſant

in thy ſight, but make thou my ſteps right vnto thee, and cleare my pathes in thy preſence, that there be no iniquitie found in my heart, nor guile in my mouth, nor vnrighteouſneſſe in my handes, nor any thing about me that may prouoke offence againſt thee, that thou ſhouldeſt turne from me and forſake me.

2 If it is thy wiſedome that is vnto mee more pretious than golde, and I deſire it aboue all thinges be they neuer ſo faire, I am inflamed with the loue of it, lende it vnto me, my deare God, for it is that which teacheth thy will, and sheweth what is moſt acceptable vnto thy ſight, and it leadeth

leadeth the waie vnto the true worshipping of thée.

3 O my God, I haue wandered out of the right path, I haue gone astraie, I haue done amisse, I haue committed wickednesse, I am sinfull: call mee home, and pardon my misdoings pluck me away from my heinous offenses, heale my soule that is oppressed with harmes, for I acknowledge my manifolde iniquities, and I am hartilie sorie for my sinnes.

4 I am wo that euer I wrt awrie thou seest, Lorde, the contrition of my heart, and my sighing is not hid from thée, take no regard to my crimes that are

past, but hearken how I purpose to amende, onelie guide me with thy grace, shun not the sute of a sinner but heare the praier of him that putteth his trust in thée, as thou most louingly hast promised.

5 Thou art almightie, O Lord my God, and canst grant whatsoeuer is asked, giue vnto my soule an hartie feeling of true deuotion, fulfil me with the charitie and louing kindnesse of thy déere Sonne, which is expressed when most humblie hée offered himselfe vpon the crosse, died the bitter death, and shed his pretious bloud for the sins of me, and many.

6 Lord

6 Lorde, if my teares, were in quantitie matcht to the deepe sea, and my sighes were as the smoke of a furnace, and my sobs could breake the hard Diamond: and my wailings were equall vn, to the noise of thunder, and my sorrow were such as no tong can expresse: yet coulde I not sufficientlie lament for the guilt of my grieuious offences:

7 Thou haste giuen mee an heart to vnderstand thée and eies to beholde thee in thy worthie workes: giue mee also I praye thee, a desire to walke in thy will, and then I am certaine I shall want nothing that is needefull for the good estate of my bodie or

ſoule aboue all, giue me the quiet-
neſſe of a calme conſcience, and ſe-
parat me not froun the hope of thy
health.

8 I haue prayed vnto thee,
my ſweete God, for perfection of
minde, ſo I beſeech thée alſo ſend
me the ſtrength and firmitude of
bodie, with al the powers thereof
to thy pleaſure: preſerue the cor-
porall life of my ſoueraigne, thy
faithfull ſeruant, our gratious
gouernor: likewiſe of my parents
freends, and kinſfolke: vouchſafe
to bee fauorable vnto my fére
whome thou haſt ſent mee in thy
feare, and ſtand good Father vn-
to my poore remainder, the belo-
ued moitie of my life.

9 If

9 If thou graunt not my petitions, thou art true notwithstanding, for God heareth not sinners, and if thou giue eare vnto my praiers, thou art mercifull, for thou commandest mee to aske and I shall receiue, and if I obtaine, it is onelie thy meere liberalitie, no desert of mine: shew me thy mercie that I may be heard, and make me worthie O Lorde, to receiue.

10 Thou hast taught mee to pray, O God deliuer me from the great euil: saue me I beseech thee from the mouth of the monstrous Dragon, which continually prosecuteth me, and with the shielde of thy might deliuer me from his

perilous hornes, for his moste
greedie desire is to intrap my life,
and to deuoure my soule, which
thou hast created.

11 Wherefore, O Lorde, in-
cessantlie I cry vnto thée, acquite
mee from my daylie aduersarie,
which wether I sleepe, or wake,
wither I eate or drinke, or what
soeuer I dow, by all meanes both
day and night, lieth in waite pri-
uilie or openlie to shoote his vene-
mous shafts against mée, and to
slay my soule, but bee thou my
gratious protector

12 If thou, Lord, bee on my
side: I esteéme not the force of a-
nie foe, there is nothing to hurt
where thou art to helpe: there

can

can no fiend of darknes impugn, where the Lord of light doeth defende: let mee not perish, Lorde, through lacke of thy succor, for in my heart I haue made thee the full refuge of my hope, and the rampire of my health.

13 Confesse I must needes, that the deuises of my heart haue driuen me from my dutie, and the imaginations of my minde haue augmented my mischefe, but I trust, Lorde, that in the richnesse of thy mercies thou wilt thinke on my pouertie, and in the plentie of thy goodnesse thou wilt remember my scarcitie of perfections, and take fauorable compassion vpon me.

14 Deternall Lord, I power not foorth my praiers before thy presence, trusting in the strength of mine owne righteousnesse, but in thy great and manifold mercy: saue mee, Lorde, for thy deere sonnes sake, preserue mee from slaunderous tongues, and hatefull hearts, defend me from misshap, pestilence, famine, murther, and sudaine death, I beseeche thee

15 Whensoeuer through casualtie I fall in daunger of the outrage of any of thy creatures, the elements, defende me I beseech thee good Lorde, from their furious force, that I be neither burnt with fire, nor drowned in water, nor

nor any other liquor nor yet ſcalded when they ſhal be made hote, nor that my fete ſo faile me vpon the earth, that I take harme by falling, or hurt by the ruine of any thing from on high vpon me.

16 Preſerue me likewiſe, O celeſtiall Father, from the manifold annoiances of the aire, peſtilience, corruption, immoderate raine, extreame drought, fierce windes, and all troubleſome and tempeſtuous weather: but eſpecially from the moſt greeuious terrour of thunder and lightning wherwith thou appal'eſt the courage both of thy ſpirituall and earthly creatures, & makeſt them to ſtand in feare of thy maieſty.

17 I

17 I will ſing with my mouth & giue thanks with my heart, & ſet forth thy glorie, moſt glorious God, and I will comfort all the mẽbers of my bodie that they ſhal doo thy heauenly will: I will bee wholy the Lords, and the Lorde ſhall bee the portion of my patrimonie, refuſe me not, for my will ſhal alwaies be wi.h thée, Amen.

E.

¶ Euerie mans worke ſhall bee made manifeſt, the daie ſhall declare it, becauſe it ſhall bee reuealed by the fire, & the fire ſhall trie euerie mans worke what it is. 1. *Cor.* 3. *verſe* 13.

The

¶ The xij Flower.

EVerlasting God, & most mercifull Father, thou hast stirred me vp with the liuelye feeling of an vnfained faith, this daie to call vpon thy most holy name: increse, I beseech thee, continuallie that godlie desire within my breast for. I knowe thou hast giftes inough in store for vs all, and thou wilt heare the humilitie of an heartie prater.

2 Heare mee nowe therefore, O my Lord, for I stand a farre off crying with the Publicane, Lorde haue mercie vppon mee which

which am a sinner. and with the Leaper, LORD if it bee thy will, thou canst cleanse mee, and with the faithfull Centurion, Lorde my seruant is verie sicke and like to die, but saie thou the worde and hee shall bee made whole.

3 What doe these things signifie, O Lorde, but that I am in miserie, and faine woulde bee releeued, I am in sorrow and faine woulde bee comforted, I am in distresse and faine would bee succoured, I am in sinne and faine would be pardoned: and I come vnto thée, for thou art the onelie worker of wealth, and Lorde of mercie, and I hope thou wilte

helpe

helpe me.

4 Haue mercie vpon mee, O Lord, haue mercie vpon me, for I had neuer so much neede, my offenses are increased, & my force is diminished, and if I woulde take in hande to vtter the millions of my misdœdes, that daylie doe burden my bodie, and sinke my soule, it were needfull that thou shouldest create in me a thousand new tongs.

5 I can hide nothing from thée that which I haue committed in secret, lieth manifest before thy celestiall eies, for at the doing of all thinges thou art present and thou art the perpetuall beholder of my heart: and all my thoughts

delights,

delights, deedes, and deuises of minde, are as cleere in thy sight, as is the light of the noonedaie, and more clearer.

6 But hearken now a while, O my soule, forsake thy worldlie businesse, and carefull cogitations for a season, be at leasure vnto God, and take thy rest in him: enter into the secret closet of thy heart, and shut forth all other occupations. and when thou arte there alone, then seeke for the Lorde, and hee will seeke for thee, and if thou list, thou shalt surely find him.

7 And when thou hast found him, say then vnto him, O Lord, my heart hath soughte thy face, teach

teach me, I beseech thée, how I may seeke thée aright, and where I may finde thée readilie, if thou be absent, where I may haue thée present, if I cannot see thée for darkenesse of my vnderstanding, bring mee into the inaccessible light, where I may alwaies behold thée.

8 Lorde, what shall thy seruant doe, which languisheth for the loue of thee, and pineth for paine that hee is so long from thy presence: hee would gladly finde thée, and he woteth not the place of thy abode: he would willingly seeke thée, and hee knowe h not thy face, yet art thou my Lorde, and my God, and I the worke of

thy worthy hands.

9 O mightie God, thou hast made me, and preserued me, and thou diddest create mee that I shoulde behold thee, and yet haue I not fulfilled that for which I was ordeined, O how miserable is the state and condition of mankinde, if he lose that through his owne wilfulnesse, for which hee was made? let me neuer, Lorde, see that daie, but shewe mee the light of thy glory.

10 Make mee recompt, O Lorde, through thee, the miserie of mine owne transgressions, and with woonderfull affection to desire redresse at thy deathe, how all the children of Adam shoulde haue

haue feed on the bread of Angels at pleasure, which nowe they doe wante, and nowe they breake the breade of sorrowe, whereon they feede at full with all bitternesse.

11 Forget not thy poore creature, O most mercifull GOD, that is buried vp in mountaines of miserie, & ouerwhelmed with whirlepooles of heauinesse, and swalowed vp in the sea of sorrow: turne thy face vnto mee which was turned awaie from mee, and heare mee whome thou wouldest not beholde, lighten my dimmed eies, and shewe me thy cheerefull countenance.

12 Restore thy selfe vnto me, that it may goe well with mee in

thee, with whome it goeth so ill without thee: repaire my decaied parts, take pitie vpon my afflictions and trauailes, helpe mine indeuoures, for I can do nothing without thee, sweeten my bitter potion with thy celestiall sugar, suffer mee not to die in despairing but to haue life in hoping.

13 In hart and contemplation, Lorde, I drawe neere vnto thee, a careful castawaie pining with pouertie, vnto thee the [illegible] of light, abounding in all wealth, a miserable wretch to a mercifull GOD, an hungrie soule to the fountaine of foode: Lord, I haue sought thee hungrie, let mee not leaue thee fasting, nor depart frō thee

thée fainting,

14 Although I wandered in extrœme darknesse, yet would I not bee afraid, and if I walked in the shadowe of death, yet would I not bee discomforted: for I am moste certaine that since I loue thee, thou wilt neuer leaue me, and thou knowest Lord, that I haue no hope but in thée onelie: thou art the portion of mine inheritance, and on thée alone doe I depende, and of this I am assured, that thou neuer failest them that put their trust in thée.

15 Be thou my defense euermore, O gratious king, against all euils, and stand betweene mee and all manner afflictions, turne

thine eies of compaſſion vpon me, and behold me with thy moſt fauourable countenance. Saie vnto my ſoule, I wilbe thy mightie protectour, and will kéepe thée as the apple of an eie, & preſerue thee vnder the ſhadowe of my wings, and there ſhall nothing in all the world haue power to hurt thée.

16 Teach me the way, ſwéet God, wherein I may walke to ſéeke thée, and ſhewe thy ſelfe vnto me. I beſéeche thée, that faine would finde thee: for I cannot ſéeke thee vnleſſe thou inſtructe mee, nor I cannot finde thée vnleſſe thou deſcrie thy ſelfe, let mée ſéeke thée in deſiring, and deſire

thée

thee in seeking, let me finde thee in louing, and loue thee in finding.

17 As I am thine image, so make mee to remember my selfe, to thinke on thée with loue, to loue thée with desire, to desire thée with feare, to feare thée with faith, to seeke thee with wisedome, to finde thée with trueth and singlenesse of heart, and to abide with thée in thine eternall glorie, which thou hast prepared for them that seeke and serue thée, Amen.

(.)

B.

¶ Bleſse them which perſecute you, bleſſe, and curſe not, reioice with them that reioiſe, and weepe with them that weepe, beeing of like affection one vnto another, not high minded, but matching your ſelues to the lower ſorte. *Rom 12. verſe. 14. Matth. 5. verſe 44 Luke, verſe. 28.*

¶ The

¶ The xij Flower

BLessed are they, as thou hast taught vs, O my sweete Sauiour Iesus Christ, which diligentlie doe heare thy moste worthie worde, & kæpe the same: yea thrice blessed are they that spende their time in the search of thy right sacred will, and moste holie heastes, exercising them in their life and conuersation, for thy holie spirit shal neuer be absent from them,

2 I wouldē to God it might pleake thée, so to addreſſe my waies, that I might in no wiſe wander awrie, & that thou wouldeſt take awaye al ſtūbling blocks from my feete that I might not fall, & preuent all dangers that I might not miſcarrie, but that thy pathes were made ſo plaine, that I might neuer commit offenſe againſt thée.

3 O Lorde, ſo it prketh mee that euer I went aſtraie: It greeueth me to the hart, inſomuch that I can receiue no comforte when I thinke on thy heauie wrath, & due indignation wherewith thou doeſt proſecute the ſinnes of the vngodly, euen vnto the

the thirde and fourth generation of such as haue not fulfilled thy commandements.

4 Beholde my God, I was borne in iniquitie, and my mother conceiued me in sinne, which I haue since multiplied by my daily transgressions, and therefore haue I deserued thy iust displeasure, with paines eternall for my rewarde. Neuertheless I appeale to thy most gratious mercie, O sweete Sauiour, beseeching thee not to enter into iudgement with thy seruant, for there is no fleshe found righteous in thy sight.

5 If thou shouldest bende thy selfe seuerelie to obserue our iniquities, O LORD, who should

ſhould bee able to abide the force of thy moſt iuſte definitiue ſentence? For thou art hee in whoſe preſence the verie heauens are defiled: howe then ſhoulde man appeére cleane and without ſpot that is made of rebellious mould, or how ſhould he appeére iuſt that is borne of a ſinfull woman?

6 But be thou, good Lorde, vnto mee a moſt ſpeciall comforter, that although I bee alreadie laide very low, yet I may not bee vtterlie brought to ruine: turne awaie the bitter ſcourge of thy well worthie vengeance, leaſt I periſh in the ſharpe execution of thy deſerued puniſhment, and ſo that bee loſte which thou diddeſt

make

make, and buie ful deere.

7 Thy propertie it is, moſt bleſſed God, to ſaue and not to ſpil, thou didſt create and not conſume, thy workes are woonderous, and they ſeemed all good vnto thee, when thou dideſt make nothing of ſpight, nor ſpight at nothing that thou diddeſt make, whereby increaſeth my comfort, that I ſhall not bee left quite deſtitute, and for lorne.

8 It is affliction enough for mee, that I haue forſaken thy waies, and not looked after the Lorde of my life. And therefore, O moſte gratious Lorde, I beſeech thee, let confeſſion of the faulte bee ſufficient punihment

of

of an offender that transgresseth not of set purpose, but oneite throw the imperfection of his fraile nature, and want of thy most gracious goodnesse.

9 I haue broken thy statutes like a proude rebell, I haue contemned thy precepts like an vnprofitable seruant, I haue violated thy will like a disobedient childe, I haue brought foorth ill fruite like a naughty tree, I haue wandered from thy fold like a lost sheepe, I haue disobeied the good pleasure of my moste sweete and louing God, like a most wicked and wretched creature.

10 Deale not with mee, O Lord, according vnto my deserts but

but thy kindnesse, not hauing respect vnto seuere iustice, but rendering mercies that I may liue longer to amende my misdeedes, and other by mine example may endeuour to doe the like, and so thy moste holie name may bee magnified both in them and mee, with right worthie commendation.

¶ Let not that be laide vnto my charge, I heartilie beseeche thee, wherein vnwitting, vnwilling, or vnadui sedlie I haue prouoked thy iust anger: but forget the follies of my forepassed yeres when I was young and rashe by course of kinde, when sinne is accounted but a plaie, and but

verie

verie small regarde is had vnto thy waies.

12 Purifie mee through thy great mercie from my secrete sinnes, whereof there is none priuie but thou alonelie, that sittest on high, and searchest the priuities of each mans heart below in the earth, to iudge euerie one in his owne deuise, and repaie them according vnto their inuentions, bewraying their filthinesse vnto the worlde, that erst laie secret in couert.

13 O Lorde, for thy names sake, let no custome of sinning take hold vpon me, nor let me neuer take pleasure in doing wickednesse, for the one were harde to

to be eſchewed without thy ſpeci-
all helpe, and the other is a mani-
feſt ſigne of the want of grace:
but bee thou alwaies my ſuccour,
O thou the God of my ſtrength,
and fortitude.

14 Suffer vs not to goe a
whoring after ſtrange thinges,
whilſt we ſeeke after thee: as for
thee, thou art within vs if wee
will be within thée, we néede not
to ſearch thée far off, for thou art
with vs in our faith vntill ſuche
time as we deſerue through thee
that thou maieſt bee with vs in
perſonall apperance, which thing
grant Lord, that I may behold.

15 For we knowe, as ſayth
thine holie Apoſtle, that Chriſt

through faith doth dwell within our hearts. For why? Christ is within our faith, the faith within our minde, the minde within our hart, the heart within her breast: but cleanse thou them all most gracious God, that my body may be made a meete temple and an vndefiled habitation, for thee to dwel in.

16 Thou hast fashioned mee after thine owne image, conforme me therefore my God, most likelie vnto thy similitude, in all vertue and holinesse, in desire of peace, in contemplation of veritie, in loue of charitie: let mee euermore retaine thee in my memorie, carrie thee in my conscience, hold thee in my

my hearte, and honour thee as pre=
sent.

Heare me, O God, in thy goodnesse, and turne not thy mer=
cifull eare from my sorrowful cry. O let the vncleannes of my soule be purified, the darkenesse of my minde lightened, the numnesse of my heart heated, the coldnesse of my cõscience warmed, and the slaepinesse of my bodie awakened, and I my selfe by all meanes pre=
pared, that I may be thy seruant to doe thy heauenly pleasure, as I am already the worke of thy cun=
ning fingers,

Amen.

N

¶ A man that beareth hatred against another, howe dare hee desire forgiueneſſe of God? forgiue then thy neighbor the hurt that hee hath doone thee, and ſo ſhall thy ſinnes bee forgiuen thee alſo when thou praieſt *Eccle* 28. *verſe.* 2.

¶ The xiiij. Flower.

ADuaunce thy ſelfe, O Lorde, in thine eternall power, and drawe thee neere to deliuer me from the ſnares

snares of the Diuell, that haue intrapped mee, and throwne me almost vnto the grounde, I haue beene plunged a long time in the sea of sensualitie, and I perceiue my deliuerance commeth onelie from thee, wherefore deliuer mee, O Lord of my saluation.

2 Thy power is aboue all powers, thou hast made all things subiect vnto thee, for though thee death hath no sting, nor Hell hath victorie: eternall thanks bee vnto God, who in our good Lord and sauiour Iesus Christ, hath giuen vnto vs a noble conquest ouer our enemies, for while I liue, I will giue most woorthie praise, as it best beseemeth

ueth.

3 Hence forwarde looke thou carefull ye vnto the course of my life, and holde fast my heart alwaies in thy feare, that I be not founde vnworthie of thy moste bountifull benefites: increase in me a care to continue in thy commaundementes, erecte a feruent faith and assured hope of thy promises, and mercie within the tender intrails of me brest.

4 Sprincle my heart with a dredge of thy tender compassion, and wholsome precepts mingled togither, that I may not wander aside, nor fall into the guilfe of thy wrath, but that thy fauour may sustaine me, and thy loue may lift

me

me vp, bringing my feete into thy rowmth of reſt. where I may not chuſe but walk in thy waies and fulfill thy godly heaſts.

5 O, how happy were I, if I might neuer hereafter in thought word nor deed, commit the thing that ſhoulde diſpleaſe thy diuine Maieſtie. That life is the longing of my ſoule, & the ſubſtance of my wiſh, and the effecte of my deſire, my hart much coueteth to ſee that bleſſed time, and my ioies then ſhould be ſuch as no mortall tong can tell.

6 Truly to knowe thee, with the Sonne, and the holie Ghoſt, is the true perfection of eternall life, the ende of bliſſfulneſſe, the

summe of all delights: no eie hath seene, no eare hath heard, nor hath it pearsed vnto the depth of anie mans vnderstanding, to valew the inestimable charetie, delectation, and pleasures of the same felicitie, when hee shall behold the maiesty of God face to face.

7 Mercy most glorious king, I haue reposed this hope in my bosome, & my heart danceth within my breast for ioie thereof, and I doe assure my selfe, through faith in thee, that these eyes wherewith I reade these lines, shall see that glorie, and this flesh wherewith I am cloaked in corruption, and meashed in mortalitie, shall be a member of that im-

immortall kingdome.

8 This worlde is farst with wickednesse, and there are many staies that stoppe a man from righteousnes, blinding him that hee may not see, and hampring him that hée may not stirre to doe the thing that is acceptable vnto God, sequestring his minde from all thoughts, studies, exercises, and labours that may, O Lorde, incite him vnto thée.

9 But my trust is in thee, O God, that thou wilt not suffer mee to fall into any outragious offense, that may demerite thine hot indignation, O turne awaie mine eies least I behold banitie, and guid my hands, that I touch no

no vniuſt thing, lift vp my minde vnto contemplation of heauenlie ſightes, and pull me from terreſtriall cogitations, that are but tranſitory.

10 I haue praied for one thing, and I requeſt the ſame moſt hartilie, that thou wouldeſt preſerue my youth from flatterers, & mine old age from ſlanderers, for the one ſort of them woulde deuoure me before I am ripe, & the other woulde burie mee before I am dead, and I haue alwaies hated them both vtterlie, for that they are haters of thy truth.

11 Powre downe vpon mee, O my louing God, the bleſſed dewe of thy diuine and incompa-

rable

rable wisdome, which is alwaies resident about thy heauenly seat, that I maye knowe my selfe throughlie and honour thee worthylie, considering the frame of mine owne infirmitie, and that there is no goodnesse but it descendeth from thee that art aboue.

12 When through the peruerse, and frowarde inclination of my nature, I fall into anie wicked and vngodly imaginations, leaue mee not, good Lorde, vnto them: acquite me from the disordinate lustes of the bodie, let no desire of vncleannesse take holde vpon me, and giue me not ouer vnto an vnshamefast, impious, and obstinate minde.

13 Set a ſure bridle vpon my mouth, and only Lord open thou my lips, that I ſpeake no proude thinges againſt thee: ſuffer not my tongue to be acquainted with ſweāring, and let not the naming of God be continually in my lips for in it are many fals but mercifully giue thou me aduiſement alwaies what I ſhal ſpeake before I open my mouth.

14 Call not the wordes that I haue vainely ſpoken vnto accounpt, impute them not vnto me for ſinne, giue me vnderſtanding to keepe prudent ſilence, and when I ſpeake, let it either be for temporall neceſſitie, either to edifie others, or elſe to beare righte-

ous

ous testimonie of the truth, let the veritie of my assertion consist in yea yea, or nay nay.

15 In all my necessities thou art euermore readie to succour me, O Lorde. My wants thou supplyest with thy plentie, when I am full, thou prouidest for my emptinesse, and when I am emptie thou openest thine hande and fillest euerie thing with thy blessing. O most mercifull GOD, howe exceading is thy goodnesse: and O most vnthankefull man, how great is thy vnkindnes.

16 Graunt, O most glorious God, that as thou art tender in mercie, so I may bee prone to thankefulnesse: I of my bounden

dutie

duetie for that which I receiue of thy most free liberalitie: & that I may remember howe that thou dealtest well with none of vs in respect of our deserues, but onelie art pitifull, and takest compassion vpon vs because thou art gratious, and thy mercie endureth for euer.

17 Lorde, here stande I vile wretche before the throne of thy dreade presence, hoping that I shall bee heard. not in the faintnesse of my faith, but in the power of thy promises. O weigh my weaknesse, and grant my desire, as thou knowest most meet for mee, then can I wante no wealth, and my conscience shal be replenished

replenished with al spiritual consolation, Amen.

C.

¶ Cast not thine eies aside from the poore, that thou giue him no occasion to speake euill of thee. For if hee complaine in the bitternesse of this soule, his praier shall be heard; euen hee that made him shall heare him *Eccle. 4. verse. 5.*

¶ The xv Flower.

CHasten me, O God, howbeit, not in the consuming rage of thy iealous wrath, for then shall

vtterly perish, but temper I beseech thee, thy furie with compassion, to the redresse of my life, not confusion of my soule: for if thou shouldest deale so severelie with sinners, alas, what shoulde become of them, for there is no flesh righteous in thy sight?

2 O thinke mercifully vppon the auncient sore of our sinnes, howe that vnwittinglie we are conceiued and borne in iniquitie, and bee thou readie to applie the most wholsome salue of thy mercie, the onelie remedie of Adams infected frute, wherby our weakned bones are made strong, & we are ekt sones erected into thy gracious fauour.

3 Thou

3 Thou haſt laide thine heauie diſpleaſure vpon me, which I knowe wel my wickedneſſe hath deſerued, namelie, a ſinfull life, a careleſſe conſcience, a negligent calling vpon thee for grace, and, thou haſt opened mine eies that I might beholde my miſerie, and howe far I am caried from thee, that art the bark of my hope, and the port of my ſaluation.

4 Notwithſtanding thy rods, and thy ſtaues, O Lord, wherewith thou haſt beaten mee, haue brought mee exceeding comfort: thy correction is full of compaſſion, and in the midſt of the miſeries which deſeruedlie thou heapeſt vpon our heads, thou groa-

neſt at our greefes, and art ſoꝛre foꝛ our afflictions, and calleſt to mind thy moſt mild mercies.

5 Swæte Loꝛde, I yeelde thæ moſt heartie thankes foꝛ thy continuall louing kindneſſe: and loe, now I dꝛawe neére vnto theé foꝛ ſuccour, hoping to finde thine accuſtomed goodneſſe, receiue me Loꝛde, vnder the pꝛotection of thy mercifull wings, defende me that am thy ſillie one, keépe mee foꝛ I am thy ſeruant, and pꝛeſerue me as the apple of an eie.

6 Beholde thou God of my power, I humblie offer heére beſoꝛe thy maieſtie, a ſweet ſmelling ſacrafice, wherein thou moſte deſightſt, a contrite conſcience, a

weaned will, an humble heart a mated minde, yeelding eies, a cumbred carcasse, and a sighing soule, refuse them not, O Lorde, for they appeale vnto the sauing seat of thy mercy.

7 O, take compassion vppon the earnest sute of a prostrate sinner, turne not thine eies from seeing his woe, nor thine eares from hearing his complaint, for I come vnto thee in heate of heart, and feruencie of faith, refuse mee not, O Lorde, for thy promises sake, and for the honour of thy holie name, wherein euermore I do take hold.

8 Lorde, thou hast concluded the effecte of true worshippin-

God in two pointes, that is to wit, in faithfull feare, and loyall loue of thee: graunt that I may imbrace them both in heart, and follow them in liuing, and expresse them in conuersation, that thou maiest bee glorified in mee, and I through thee may inioy euerlasting felicitie.

O good God, what vile wickednesse, and vedeun bestlinesse is that, when as most filthie dust and ashes disdaineth to hearken vnto thee that didst create all the worlde, runneth from thee when thou dooest call, and stoppeth his eares when thou dost speake vnto him? what pestilent plagues, what due damnation deserueth such

such demeanoure?

10 Againe, O most vnspeakable mercy of thy diuine goodnes, that beholdest vs daylie turning awaie from thee our vnhappie eares shutting our foolish eie, and hardning our stubborne heartes, and yet notwithstanding criest continuallie vnto vs, O yee sinners, incline vnto wisedome, and beholde, for I am the Lord your God.

11 Mercifull God, if at anie time I haue beene such a one, as needes I must confesse my selfe to bee of all other the moste greeuous sinner, I hartelie beseech thee not to impute it vnto me, forgiue me all my fond negligences,

 and

and grosse ignorances, which I haue left vndone, let them come no more into thy remembraunce, nor appeare in thy sight to be obiected against me.

12 O how well were I, if it might please thee to draw me a direct line in thy lawes that I might go right, and to leade mee in the light of thy truth that I might not tripp, and to holde me by the hande that I might not slide, and to staie mee vp that I might not fall, but especiallie if thou wouldest take me vnto thee, that whereas thou art, I might be euer there also.

13 I haue marueilouslie offended thee, and there are many occasions

occasions of offence, which if thou wouldest take from me, then shoulde not my sinnes bee so burdenous vnto my soule, nor so greeuous vnto thy sight, which I confesse are manifolde: but, Lorde, I know thy mercies, and sauing health are infinite, and thou art prone vnto forgiuenesse.

14 O God great in mercie, what is sillie man that thou esteemest so of him, that thou hast made the heauens to serue his pleasure, and hast giuen him the whole frame of the earth to dwell vpon, and all the creatures thereof to bee at his commandement? yea, thou hast set him ouer all thy workes of thy handes, and sub-

ated all thinges vnder his féete both the rough beasts of the field, and the feathered fowles of the aire, and the slimie fishes of the sea.

15 Exceéding praises I yéeld vnto thee, my Lorde and maker, for that thou haste created mee one of thes thy reasonable creatures, euen a man whome thou hast framed vnto thy most séemelie similitude. Frame also within mee a thankfull heart to thinke vppon this vnspeakeable goodnesse, and giue praises vnto my mouthe that I máy bee alwaies telling thy exceéding mercies to them that shall bee borne hereafter.

16 The

16 The ripenesse of my perfection shall bee the greatnesse of thy glorie, the summer of my sutes shall bee the spring of thy praise, the harvest of my righteousnesse shall bee the seede of thy commendation, the winter of my wickednesse, shall bee the caring of thy honour, the fruites of my faith shall bee the flower of thy worthinesse, the top of my tranquilitie shall bee the roote of thy renowme.

17 I will walke in thy waies O Lorde, and obey thy will, I will keepe thy commandements, and take care of thy couenantes, I will holde thy heastes as my life, and regarde thy precepts as mine

mine owne soule, there shall no=thing thrust mee from thy truth, nor frais mee from thy feare, nor allure me from thy loue, and then am I as certaine that I shall liue, as I am sure thy praises shal not die, Amen.

O.

¶ O giue eare vnto good counsell, and bee content to bee reformed, that thou maiest be wise hereaftet: for there are many deuises in a mans heart, neuertheleſſe the counsell of the Lorde, shall stande for euer, *Pro, 19. verse, 20.*

¶ The

¶ The xvi Flower.

O Lorde, thou Father and GOD of my life, I beseeche thee, for thy Sonne Christs sake, bende downe thine eies of compassion vpon mee that am thine humble seruant, but at this present wofullie oppressed with carefull incombrances of sinne, so that I want power to lift vp my hands, and with my tongue I am not able to expresse the sorrowes that I sustaine

2 I am deepely wounded that my

my life languisheth awaie, I am broken that I cannot recouer, I am sore that I cannot bee cured, I am sicke that I cannot bee saued, I am so nigh death that I cannot liue, I am so pind, that I am past all helpe, vnlesse that thou, O Lorde, come with speedie releefe, the worker of my wealth and curer of all infirmities.

3 For if thou put forth thy holie hande I shall bee holpen, if thou doe but touch me, I shall bee saued, if thou doe but saie the worde my loathsomnesse shall bee releeued. O Lorde, I praie thee heartilie come ease mee of my greefes, come cure me of my care,

come saue mee from thy sicknesse, come assure mee from my sorrowes, restore me to my health, and prolong the dayes of my life to thy pleasure.

4 In weakenesse of bodie and infirmitie of minde, in feeblenesse of flesh and crasinesse of conscience, in aduersitie of the world and all miseries of mankinde, I haue made mine earnest cõplaint vnto thee, O Lord, and thou hast graciously heard me, thou didest neuer turne from me in prosperitie, nor disdain me in trouble, and I trust thou wilt neuer forsake me.

5 As mine owne infirmities haue taught mee, I acknowledge the

the horrible corruption of my nature, and with humblenesse of heart, and sorrowfulnesse of spirite, and contrition of minde I bewaile my filthinesse, and openlie confesse my sinnes. My offenses are wonderfull, and my transgressions are infinite, and who can recite all the wickednesse that hee hath committed? For they be infinite, euen as the sandes of the sea that cannot bee numbred.

6 Lorde, this worlde is subiect vnto maruellous mutabilitie, the state of man inuariable, for thou enrichest the poore, and impouerishest the rich, thou pullest downe the loftie, and raisest vp the

the base, yet grant vnto mee, that I may with all meekenesse of mind be well contented with the calling whereunto thou hast allotted me, and yeelde vnto thee most dutifull thanks therefore.

7 Some are carried awaie with vaine pompes and titles, and some doe moile for the miserable mucke of this worlde, some ioy in costly iewels and pretious stones, and repose their pleasure in cups of siluer and golde: But grant mee, O God, the inestimable treasures of thy grace, and the safetie of mine owne iewell which is my soule, and through thee to possesse the vessell of my bodie in honour and holinesse, to

be

be a meete habitation for the holie Ghost.

8. Giue not vnto me, O God, the great heapes of worldlie wealth, nor cast not vpon me the gnawing paines of pining pouertie, for riches make a man not knowe himselfe much lesse God, and pouertie in my times is an enimie vnto vertuous manners and godlinesse, but mercifullie graunt vnto me a reasonable and competent liuing.

9 There are many that haue fallen by abundance, and diuerse by lacke, but, O thou heauenlie Father, thou art onelie the rich God, vouchsafe I beseech thee to giue mee alwaies a sufficient re-

leeuing

lasting both for my bodie & soule, and for the charge of houshoilde which thou hast giuen vnto mee, and in all thinges to auoide most vaine superfluitie.

10 Sweete Lorde, fixe my minde firmely vppon thee and nothing else, as for worldly thinges let them same vile vnto me in respect of thee, let me take comforte in thee and not in them, suffer no mirth to remaine in my minde, nor ioy to harbour in heart, nor pleasure to rest in my thoughte, nor desire to abide in my breast, that is not in thee and for thee only.

11 If it be thy will, O eternall king, that I shall liue in thy loue,

and continue in thy fauour, and die in thy faith, then take from me the meanes of ordinarie offending thee, make mee angrie without sinning, humble without faining, merrie without lightnesse, sad without mistrust, sober without dulnesse, and trustie without doublenesse.

12 Strike into my heart a true feare of thee, yet that I do not despaire, and a feruent loue vnto thee, but yet that I may not presume: giue me vnderstanding to amende mine owne vnrighteousnesse with discretion, and admonish my neighbours of their faults without dissimulation, and that by my words, and example, they

they may take a patterne of doc-
trine and liuing.

13 Establish mee in a right trade of well pleasing thee, that my life may be conformable vnto thy worthy will, reueale vnto the eies of my soule by inspiration of thy holy spirit, some sight or taste of thy heauenly ioies, that I may be carried with delight to accom-plish that which is pleasant vnto thee, and profitable for mine owne se fe.

14 A drop of thy grace, shall be the sea of my saluation: a sparkle of thy loue, shall bee the flame of my faith a mote of thy mercie, shall be the heape of my health: a sande of thy sighte, shall bee the

banke of my beautie: a graine of thy goodnesse, shall be the weight of my worthinesse: one fauour of thy celestiall face, shall be the fulnesse of mine eternall felicitie.

15 O Lorde God, and holie father, cast downe thine eies from thy sacred sanctuarie, and from thy heauenly habitation, and beholde the most acceptable sacrifice which our high bishop Jesus Christ, thy deare sonne our Lord offereth vp vnto thy maiestie for our manifold sinnes, and be mercifull vnto the multitude of our misdeeds.

16 Behold the pretious blood our most sweete Sauiour, crieth yet vnto thee from the altar of the

the croſſe, hee hangeth yet there and ſtill is hee dying vnto thee, who ſeeſt all thinges in preſent, that is paſt, & before whoſe eies the effectes of all times done dooeuer abide as now in doing conſider him, O mercifull God, and for his ſake take pitie vpon vs.

17 I muſt needes loue thee, O my moſt deere redemer Jeſus Chriſt, with al my hart, with all my ſoule, and with al my power, that dideſt vouchſafe to die for my ſinnes, my ſoule cleaueth faſt vnto thee, for thou art hir ſtrength and fortitude: grant vnto me that I may enſue thy worthie ſteps, and bee partaker of thy heauenlie kingdome, according as I haue

shewne my sighinges vnto thee, and put my whole trust in thee, that art the portion of mine inheritance, Amen.

N.

¶ Naked as we came foorth of our mothers wombe: *Iob.* 1. *verse* 21 euen so goe wee hence againe, & carie nothing awaie with vs of al our labor, 1. *Tim.* 6 *vers* 7. Consider this wonderfu l work of God, and howe that no man can make the thing straighte which he mkaeth straight, *Eccl.* 17. *verse.* 14.

¶ The

¶ The xvij Flower.

NO creature vnder heauen may bring me cõfort, but thou O lord of eternall glory that art the help of mans health, and surgeon of his soule, thou strikest and healest, thou bringest a man nigh vnto death, and anon restorest him to life againe, to the intent hee may knowe his owne weaknesse, and imbecilitie, and cleaue the more firmelye vnto thy strength and vertue.

2 Gratious Lorde, as thou diddest once marcilously frame and nourish mee within my mothers wombe, and broughtest me out thereof founde in all partes, without imperfection: so I moste humblie beseech thee to continue thy loving favour towardes mee, & to keepe me in all dangers, and to preserue mee in all perils, and to deliuer mee from all euill, euen as hitherto thou hast done of thy fatherly and diuine goodnesse, for which I am euermore bounden to serue, honour and obey thee.

3 And therefore, O God, I extoll thy sacred name. And notwithstanding that I am a miserable man, and a wretched sinner and

and therefore moste vnmeete and also vnable to praise thée according to thy worthinesse, yet will I not surcease but giue thee thankes to the vttermost of my power. Surely I will declare thy iustice and mercie, and while I liue I will remember thy great goodnesse, and at no time forget thy bountifull benefits.

4 As for man, hée is nothing else but a shewe of simple séed, and a slip of slender strength, and a bubble of boiling broth, and a branch of fading flowers, and an handfull of goodly grasse, that to daye flourisheth in the pleasant field, and to morrow is flong into the burning fire, a frame of moste

fraile

traile fleſh, in whom is no perpe-
tuitie nor indurance.

5 Lord, let me euermore beare this portrature in my minde of mine owne infirmitie, conſide-
ring ſtil what I am remembring alwaies what I would be: then ſhal I lée ſe liking of my ſelfe and long after the loue of thée, for I am the image of thy ſubſtance, al-
though the looking back from thy lawes hath ſoiled mee ſore with ſinne

6 As I am full of imperfecti-
on of my ſelfe, ſo ſupplie thou my wants in thee, for when I haue indeuoured all that I maye, my righteouſneſſe is thine, and thou crowneſt me with endleſſe honor:

for

for that which proceedeth onelie from thee, and is so litle agreeable vnto my corrupt nature, that it is rather quight alas repugnant thersunto.

7 My sinnes, O Lorde, lie forth in plentie before my face, I can turne no way but they ouer-take me, I would faine intreate thee to pardon them, and I dare not draw neere thee for dreade of them: consider my necessitie most mightie God, and deliuer me, and graunt most gratiouslie vnto thy sinfull seruaunt the participation of thy most glorious mercie.

8 What though my sinnes be as the sands of the sea, and my wickednes surmount the leaues of

of the wode, and my transgres-
sions strue in number with the
flowers of the spring: yet take
thou no regarde, O Lorde, vnto
the frowardnesse of my heart, but
like as thou hast manye times
shewed mercie, so nowe bee pitifull
and forgiue me.

9 I haue hungred my soue-
raigne Lorde and God, to feede
vpon thée that arte the breade of
life, not with the iawes of my
flesh, but with the mouth of my
faith, vntill it may please thee to
fede mee at full with the entire
contemplation of thy substaunce,
which I shall see face to face, and
also bee seene in thy celestiall glo-
rie, when I am discharged of
this

this kartheli of frailtie: this hope is the harbour of my delight, and the assured looking for it, is the cherkest flower of my Garland.

10 Most gracious gouernour giue mee to drinke of that water, whereof who so drinketh, shall thirst the more, as after the sweetnesse of heauenly thinges, whose taste is vnspeakeable pleasaunt: and giue me also to drinke of that water, the drinkers whereof shal thirst no more for euer, for it floweth forth from thee, the fountaine of immortalitie.

11 Truelie, Lorde, there is no cause why I shoulde long to abide in this life, if I were of such perfection as was thy Apostle

ſtle Paule, I ſhoulde perceiue the wickednesse of this worlde, and the glorie of thy kingdome, and wish earnestlie as he did, to be dissolued from this bodie, and to bee with Christ, whereas hee reigneth in eternitty.

12 O Lorde, thou knowest my heartie desire is alwaies to serue thee, and euermore to abide in thy loue and fauour: grant vnto mee of thy gratious goodnesse, that I may liue in thy lawe, and run in thy rule, and walke in thy way, and die in thy faith, and that I may be clerely deliuered of the bondage of sin. and bee wholy out of dread of death and damnation

13 Execute these things vpon

on me, O my most louing God, and as it shall seeme best vnto thy pleasure, and most fitting for my soule, abridge the daies of this pilgrimage, and commence the terme of my true life, call mee from this claie, and cloth mee in the weede of euerlasting wealth, where thou art resident with thy saints in eternall glory.

14 Lorde, if it so bee, that the destruction day of all flesh bee at hand, as it is hartily hoped: then haue we great cause to yeeld thee moste humble thankes for shortning the time of our trouble, and taking awaie the occasions of offending, that thine elect may possesse

lesse the longer sum of their ioies and yeld vp the sums of a shorter account.

15 O God, what a ioyfull day shall that same be, when we shall behold with our eies those things which we haue often recorded in our hearts, and heare with our eares which wee haue read with our eies, and feele with our sence that which wee haue manifoldlye conceiued in our mindes, but all as it were in a cloud, or veile, but then to enioie them in expresse, and perfect kinde.

16 Mortefie the man of sinne, I praie thee good Lorde, which reigneth within my mortal bodie that alwaies rebelleth againste my

my ſpirit, depꝛelling mee downe euer in ignorance, and enuying me the fruition of thy noble beautie: let no feare of any cozpozall death defer me from the moſt heauenly feeling of ſuch a ghoſtly cõtemplation.

¶ If once the fulneſſe of this effect were bꝛought vnto wiſhed end we ſhould not need with ſuch deſire to make ſute foꝛ our ſinnes foꝛ in thy kingdome, O moſt pure God, there dwelleth no wickednelſe noꝛ infirmitie, but each coõg is buſie in ſinging thy pꝛaiſe, all laud and honour be vnto thee, O moſt mightie God, foꝛ euer and euer, woꝛld without end, Amen.

A Complaint to Almightie God in biternes of ſoule, by one wrapped in aduerſitie.

THou art my Creator, for thou haſt made mee, thou art my God for I doo honour thee, O Lord God of hoſtes, ſhew vnto me thy ſauing health in the midſt of the aduerſities, afflictions and troubles that haue ouertaken me, and layde ſore hand vpon me, that they haue well nigh wearied mee to the death, conſumed my fleſh to the bone, and brought mee almoſt to vtter deſtruction: for whileſt I am oppreſſed with woes, and crie vnto thee from the deapth of

of my heart, and would faine aſpire with my voice vnto the top of the comfortable throne of thy mercie, my ſpirits are waſted with heauines, I am waxed faint with feeblenesſe, my throte is become ſore, and yet I am nothing the neere of helpe.

2 Haſt thou forgotten mee, my Lorde, and vtterlie blotted the remembrance of me out of thy moſte gratious thought? Am not I thy wretched ſeruant, and ſonne of thy handmayde, of her I meane that feared and honored thy name, vnto whoſe throate thy wordes were ſmoother than oile, and to whoſe mouth they were ſweeter then the honie combe? Sometime I ſtoode in thy fauour. but nowe I am come in contempt before thee Thou haſt turned my ſtate, thou haſt ouer throwne my welfare, thou haſte

ſaide thy heauie rod of vengeaunce vppon mee, thou haſt changed my wealth into pinching pouertie, my eſtimation into diſworſhip, my beautie into deformance, my fauour into filthineſſe, and ſo I abide, rather falling to woorſe, then faring to better.

3 O my God, is it not an vnmeete thing that duſt and aſhes ſhould reaſon their caſe with thee, thou art the worker of all the world? But if euer I founde grace in thy ſight, ſuffer me I beſeech thee to vtter the bitternes of my ſoule before thee, and be not diſpleaſed with me therefore: for thou arte the noble Phyſician of the minde, vnto whom I muſt open my greefe if I will looke to receiue remedie, and thou art the God of all conſolation before whome I muſt powre out my complaint, if I looke for redreſſe, or amend

amendement, for where there is no ſickneſſe there needeth no medicine, and he that is not in diſtreſſe hath no neede of comforte to relieue his carefull heart. But Lord, thou knoweſt my wantes, and there is none that can or will helpe me, but thou only.

4 Make mee to vnderſtande what is the cauſe that thou puniſheſt me ſo ſore? why is thy heauie hande ſo greeuiouſlie laide vpon me? Why am I ſo miſerablie afflicted, either contrarie to that I was woont, or otherwiſe than moſt ſort of the common multitude, that haue verie ſmall, or no ſenſe at al of thee? Is it for the reward of mine owne wickednes, or doeſt thou lay the burthen of ſome other mans ſinnes vpon my backe, and plagueſt mee for the offenſes that other haue cõmitted, as thou haſt threat-

ned to do vnto the third and fourth generation of them that hate thee and keepe not thy commandements? I would it might pleaſe thee to reueale that point of thy ſecret iudgement vnto mee, it ſhoulde be parte vnto mee of a bountifull benefite and a great eaſe vnto my carefull conſcience, and a refreſhing vnto my mated mind.

5 As thou haſt taught me, Lorde, by thy worthie worde, if the father eate ſower grapes the childerens teeth ſhall not be ſet on edge, thou haſt long ſince determined to take awaie that by worde from out the houſe of Iſraell, for euerie man Hencefoorth, ſaieſt thou, ſhall beare the price of his owne tranſgreſſions: and as thou art a righteous God, charge mee not with the gailt of predeceſſors, nor with the tranſgreſſions of poſteritie, for I am wrapped

wrapped too much in the vnrighte ouſneſſe of mine owne waies : in the tenderneſſe of thy moſt milde mercies, withdraw thy ſcourges, & ſeuere dealing with mee, conuert thy rigour into compaſſion, thy iudgment into mildnes, thy iuſtice into fauour, thy wrath into thy fatherlie ſaluation, for I am alreadie feeble, laide waſte, caſt downe, and vtterly forlorne.

6 Shewe me, Lorde, are my ſins more hainous in thy ſight, than any mans elſe, that thou haſt ſingularly plagued me aboue the reſt? Howbeit, I preſume not vppon mine owne righteouſneſſe, but confeſſe my ſelfe to haue deſerued the very extreamity of thy diſpleaſure for my wickedneſſe. But hath not my poore eſtate beene indifferentlie afflicted for my manifeſt tranſgreſſions, & haue I not bought deere

deere enough my ſecret offenſes? Are they al pure & without ſin that flow in golde, that walke in ſilkes, that feede on dainties that ſleepe on downe, that abounde in poſſeſſions, that keepe company with Princes, that liue in pompe and all worldlie wealth, and am I made poore, abiect, contemtible, forſaken, and caſt awaie, bicauſe I am only ſinfull?

7 Turne thee, O Lord, into my comfort, make haſte to ſuccour my poore diſtreſſed eſtate, and remember that I am but fleſh and bloud: ſet not thine omnipotent might againſt the infirmitie of my miſerable moulde, for I acknowledge that I haue aggrauated the fruites of thy juſt wrath, and thee dalie deedes of my neglected duetie ilie forth before my face, ſo that I cannot excuſe my ſelfe of the greateſt

teſt ſinne that canne bee committed againſt thee, there is no puniſhment that may be made match vnto my malitiouſnes, it is too light which thou haſt laid vpon me for mine offenſes, for in truth I acknowledge that I haue deſerned death for my demerits, and euerlaſting damnation for my miſdeeds.

8 Weigh yet my ſorrowes, O God, for I call vnto thee from the bottome of a broken heart, and a ſighing ſoule, and a tormented mind, ceaſe off the ſowerneſſe of thy pretenſe, and molifie thy moode into mercie, conuert my pouertie into ſufficiencie, my contempt into ſome regarde: take from me this thy deſerued plague that I cannot proſper, which ſome terme euill fortune, but I finde to be thy moſt iuſt iudgement, which with an heauie hande thou laieſt ſometime vppon the

the necke of sinfull mortall creatures whereas it seemeth best vnto thy diuine pleasure, doutlesse for the amendment of their liues, and calling them home to thy heauenlie heastes, and erecte mee into a place where the good gifts may be seene which thou hast bestowed vpon me

9 It is, Lorde, a greeuous wound to my heart, when I beholde the good hap that some men haue, and how enerie thing goeth awrie with me that I take in hand, not that I am sorrie at their good successe, but it yrketh mee that I finde not the like. They liue in good case in whom there is not that which resteth in me, they square in abundance, and I surke in want. they take their ease and gaine, I labour and liue by the losse, they sleepe, & waxe rich I toyle and euer am poore, they stande still and it commeth vnto them,

them, I runne after it, and ſtill it flieth from mee: I haue bin fairelie promiſed, but I ſee no performance at all that enſueth, and they that ſhould do me Good, either they cannot, or they will not, or I come to rathe or to late vnto them, and either they feed mee with ſhals, and another enioieth the fruite, or elſe they put me off with delaies, and O Lord: I periſh in the meane ſeaſon.

10 Note, my ſweete God, howe vncourteouſlie I haue been dealte withall, for my friendſhip I haue found hatred, ſuch as I haue been principall to procure them releefe, haue been the cheefe cauſers to caſt mee out of my liuing, I haue bin accuſed without cauſe for that I neuer meant, I am ſuppoſed to bee other then I am, I am hit in the teeth with other mens faults, and harde

harde borne for thinges I cannot mende, I am heauilie freended of ſuch as ſhould fauour mee. they are readie to take from mee, that which I haue, who of duetie ſhould giue me that which I lacke and O God, thou knoweſt mine innocency and howe vndeſeruedly they doe it: I haue bin obedient to my power, but my portion is alotted as I had bin otherwiſe, I was borne as of thy ſeruant Sara, but I am reputed as one of the ſonnes of Agar, it were almoſt infinite to ſhew how I haue bin afflicted, and I am now opreſſed with a burthen that I can not ſuſtaine, vnleſſe thou be my ſingular good God, and I hope herein thou wilt haue a ſpetiall regard vnto me.

11 Euer hitherto, thou haſt ſtirred vp worthie veſſels, to relieue the woes, and cure the cares of ſuch as were

were wrapped in aduerſitie, & haſt thou raiſed none to helpe mee, O Lord? Surelie, I do conſtantlie beleeue that thou wilt not leaue mee vnlooked to, although at this preſent I ſee almoſt no ſigne of ſuccour, and the wellſpringes of my bloud be waxed drie towardes mee, and thou haſt multiplied the number of my kinneſfolkes aboue my friendes, and ſlender bee the twine whereon the ſtay of my ſimple liuing dependeth. Suffer them not to want. I beſeech thee, that haue friendlie looked vpon my penurie, ſtand thou good Father vnto them that haue dealt with mee as their naturall child, let not their barnes be the emptier, nor their bagges the lighter, nor their houſes the deſolater nor their harts the heauier, nor their heires the poorer, & when it ſhall pleaſe thee, then haue mee

remembrance, as I stande
with dewe of my gracious good-
Lorde, her my [illegible] take
[illegible] looking for [illegible] daie
[illegible] bin cheerfull
[illegible] longsuffring
[illegible] my bu-
[illegible] lodged
life.

FINIS.

[illegible] P 66